

# ANNUAL CONVENTION NUMBER

# THE U.F.A.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF  
THE UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA :: THE ALBERTA WHEAT POOL  
AND OTHER PROVINCIAL MARKETING POOLS

Vol. 11

CALGARY, ALBERTA, FEBRUARY 1st, 1932

No. 3

## *Central Board of the United Farmers of Alberta for 1932*



*Standing, left to right:* J. M. Wheatley (Bow River); W. N. Smith (Editor *The U.F.A.*); Miss F. Bateman (Secretary); J. K. Sutherland (Acadia); Walter Skinner (Battle River); H. G. Young (Wetaskiwin); A. E. Moyer (Vegreville); H. B. MacLeod (Macleod); Geo. E. Church (E. and W. Calgary); Hugh Critchlow (Peace River South); Mrs. P. C. Hepburn (Second Vice-President, U.F.W.A.); John Fowle (Medicine Hat); R. Pye (Red Deer).

*Seated, left to right:* Norman F. Priestley (Vice-President); Mrs. A. H. Warr (President, U.F.W.A.); Robert Gardiner, M.P., (President); Mrs. R. Price (First Vice-President, U.F.W.A.); Francis Fry (President, Junior Branch).

*Front Row, left to right:* Geo. Bevington (E. and W. Edmonton); I. V. Macklin (Peace River North); J. E. Brown (Camrose); Donald MacLachlan (Athabasca); J. A. Johansen (Lethbridge).



# An Echo of the Annual Convention

J. S. Woodsworth's Challenging Address

By Amelia Turner

"I don't think there is ever going to be a return to normalcy." A simple sentence, uttered, with no flourish of oratory, in the deep quiet voice that had filled the building for two hours, it remains one of the echoes of the Convention. It was the summing up of the past and the present, and the question, the challenge, of the future.

The crowd of delegates and of townspeople who filled the church to the doors, sat in absolute stillness. No return to normalcy! Were we nearing the end of the old familiar order—its wretchedness for many—its measure of safety for some? The end—but what would take its place? What was to be the new "normal"? And what lay between us and the achievement of that new "normalcy"? Hope struggled with doubt and fear.

J. S. Woodsworth is a man whose words carry weight. He is known as a student, as a thoughtful man, whose characteristic restraint of speech adds weight to the exceptional prophecy.

## Woodsworth's Character and Record

Mr. Woodsworth's character and record have gained for him a very general respect. During the war he was denounced from the pulpit of a Calgary church as a dangerous man, disloyal, a pacifist. A few weeks ago he spoke from that very pulpit, the honored guest of the pastor and congregation—spoke of the very things for which he had been denounced—spoke plain truths of war and peace, and the underlying economic causes of war. It was just following the war that the incident occurred to which Mr. Garland, the chairman, had referred in introducing Mr. Woodsworth to the Convention—that he had been "jailed for quoting Scripture." He was charged with sedition, with having quoted, in a newspaper article, the noble words of Isaiah:

"And they shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat of the fruit thereof; they shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat."

Following the close of the 1931 session of Parliament, Mr. Woodsworth spent four months in Europe—in Geneva, in France, Germany, England, Russia. He attended sessions of the League of Nations, of various Parliaments, interviewed officials and political leaders, and talked to fellow-travellers and chance acquaintances. That trip formed the basis of his address to the Convention.

"What have we to do with Europe?" was his first question, answered by showing the effect of European affairs on our markets, and of European wars on our lives.

## Unfulfilled Promise to Disarm

Mr. Woodsworth had spent a month at Geneva, looking on at the sessions of the League of Nations. What had struck him most was "that although there were a large number of representatives very little was accomplished—generally because owing to the constitution of the League it was only a meeting place." Representatives of the nations there had not been given authority. Disarmament had been one of the chief questions dis-

cussed: "In the Peace Conference we promised one another, we promised Germany, to disarm. But the years have gone by and instead of disarming we have increased our armaments." If the coming Disarmament Conference discussed merely a reduction of naval forces, etc., it would be a most dismal farce.

## A Fatuous Optimism

Here the speaker interpolated a scathing word for the "old fatuous idea that if you only smile long enough things will come your way." "That," he said, "is still believed in by professional boosters, Rotary clubs, and business men, who have been prophesying prosperity for the past ten years. I wonder they don't hide their faces. If they could show us the economic factors that will lead to the change, all right; but they fail to do that and simply say 'Smile, Smile, Smile,' and call the rest of us knackers."

Germany, said Mr. Woodsworth, was the sorest spot of Europe. With six millions unemployed, the country was in a bad way economically. The bankers had assured us that Germany was simply incapable of paying reparations and at the same time meeting the short term loans which she owes, chiefly to the United States. France was determined to exact her pound of flesh of reparations; and resentment was gathering in Germany. The falling of the pound sterling, and the abandonment of the traditional free trade policy, were symptoms of British conditions.

## New Regime in Russia

When Mr. Woodsworth began to speak of Russia, one felt that, interesting and important as the rest of his speech was, here was something even more absorbing. The audience, hitherto almost uniformly silent, broke into frequent and vociferous applause while the speaker described the ideals and achievements of the new regime in Russia—not failing, on the other hand, to make clear that there were dark shades as well as bright in that picture, and that "Russia was not out of the woods yet."

Mr. Woodsworth said he didn't pose as an authority on Russia, though he had read a great deal about that country since the revolution, and talked to many people who had been there. His own visit had been very brief, but his introductions had brought him in contact with many different people there. One had to interpret Russia in view of the previous situation there—as a physician would interpret a temperature of 101 degrees as a hopeful or dangerous sign, according to the previous condition of his patient. The standard of living, in a great many ways, was lower than in Canada or the rest of Europe; food was none too abundant, transportation was poor; but, in his opinion, the tendency in Russia was upwards, and in many other countries, apparently, downwards;

and the direction was the important thing.

Russia is under a dictatorship, undoubtedly, continued the speaker, adding, "I don't like dictatorships, whether the kind in Russia or the financial dictatorship that we have in Canada, and I would say that the Russian dictatorship has been pretty ruthless." But it was a dictatorship, on the whole, in the interests of the great masses of the people. In Russia it was the working classes who controlled, and not the business men, as in this country. Wealthy people were under many handicaps—food tickets, theatre tickets, admission to colleges, etc., being distributed only to working people. "They say, if a man shall not work, neither shall he vote, and so he is disfranchised."

## The Most Significant Thing

Everyone was busy in Russia; work was plentiful. Starting without any skilled knowledge, without much mechanical aptitude, there had been waste and inefficiency in construction, etc. But in spite of that, tremendous headway was being made; "and whether or not they complete the Five Year Plan all along the line, right up to the mark, is not the most significant thing; the most important thing is that they are trying, and if they don't do it in five years, they will in six. . . . The problems are so colossal, and the achievements are so colossal that they simply stagger the imagination."

The Russians were working according to a plan, and in that fact lay a challenge to the rest of the world. We in Canada, declared Mr. Woodsworth, "are living in an era of industrial anarchy. We have all been brought up in the theory that in some mysterious way, if you allow each man to go his own way, in the long run the results would be in the interests of prosperity." We were beginning to doubt the soundness of that theory.

Where did Russia get the money to carry out her plans, her tremendous construction programs? She may have got some credits from outside, but not to any great extent; the great thing was that Russia had used the credit of the country, regarding it as belonging to the people of the country.

Russia had started an experiment, not equalled in the history of the world; an experiment regarded in some quarters as a menace. It was, however, not a menace, but a challenge. The idea had been prevalent that after the depression we would return to "normal" conditions; but "I don't think there is ever going to be a return to normalcy. And what then? Well, I think it is for us to blaze some new trails. I am not advocating a Russian revolution; I hope we may be saved from the horrors of anything like that. . . . We have the wealth of the country here, all the necessities of making a happy and contented people; and yet there is something in our social and economic structure that is preventing us from getting out of life what we believe we should get out of it."

There lay the challenge.



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## EDITORIAL

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## THE ANNUAL CONVENTION

Delegates to the Annual Convention of the U.F.A. met this year under the shadow of the gravest crisis

in the history of agriculture in the Province, of the gravest crisis in the history of the competitive economic system. It is a crisis due to no natural causes, but to the inherent defects of an outworn system, which, in the face of a higher degree of productivity than the world has hitherto known, imposes upon an overwhelming number of the masses of the people, poverty, want, and the overhanging threat of starvation in the midst of plenty.

It was to be expected, therefore, that the Convention should reflect the determination of rapidly growing numbers of rural, as of urban people, to use such power as organization can give them to guide the processes of social change towards the creation of a new social order. In this respect the Convention gives surer grounds for hope than any of its predecessors. The objective of our movement, and the means by which alone it can be attained, were clearly set forth, for the guidance of its representatives in every field.

In spite of superficial differences, there is among the membership of the Association a unity of purpose, based on fundamental thinking, radical in the correct sense of that much abused word, such as the past has never known. Humanity is on the march. In the march towards the goal of the Co-operative Commonwealth, we do not believe that Alberta farmers will lag behind.

\* \* \*

The Convention was well reported in both Edmonton daily newspapers. The *Journal* and the *Bulletin* gave extensive space to the proceedings, which were fairly and accurately described. The Central Board expressed its appreciation by the adoption of a resolution which was forwarded to the editors of these newspapers.

\* \* \*

## MONTHLY ISSUES

As announced on page 27 of the current number, *The U.F.A.*, commencing with our issue of March 1st, will be issued once a month, instead of twice a month as hitherto. The curtailment is regretted. While it will be possible to give but limited space to the session of the Legislature or to the work of the U.F.A. Group in the Federal Parliament, we plan to deal with these matters, as well as the outstanding activities of the Association, within the space available, and an effort will be made also to deal with fundamental issues of social policy. The February mid-month issue will be published as usual.



# Servile State or Co-operative Commonwealth?

President Gardiner in First Annual Address to U. F. A. Convention Reviews Provincial, National and International Situation—Has Capitalistic System Reached Its Full Development?—And What Shall Succeed It?

At the last Annual Convention of the United Farmers of Alberta, you conferred upon me the honour and responsibility of the presidency of the Association in succession to Mr. H. W. Wood. Mr. Wood had occupied this position for nearly sixteen years. During this long period of time, he served the organization with distinction and ability, as he did and is still doing in other fields of agricultural endeavour. May we trust that Mr. Wood will long be spared to continue his unselfish and valuable service in the farmers' interests.

When I was elected to the position of President of the Organization, I felt that, having in mind the fact that I represent the constituency of Acadia in the Federal Parliament, I had accepted more responsibility than one person could be expected to assume. However, owing to the splendid co-operation that I have received from the Vice-President, the Executive, the Board of Directors, the Federal and Provincial U.F.A. Members, and the staff at Head Office, some of the responsibility usually expected to be assumed by the President has been borne by those above mentioned. May I take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the fine spirit of co-operation displayed by all, including the membership of the organization, in assisting me to perform the duties attaching to the office of President of the Association.

Owing to financial stringency, it was found impossible to hold the usual midsummer Board meeting. This was unfortunate, as it is desirable that all members of the Board be kept fully acquainted with the business of the Association. Central Office has, however, kept in close touch with the members of the Board during the year, forwarding all information of importance relative to the business of the organization. It is to be hoped that it will be possible to hold the midsummer Board meeting during the coming summer, as this is more satisfactory than forwarding information by mail.

The increased co-operative activities of the Association, and the fact that no midsummer Board meeting was held, necessitated the holding of more meetings of the Executive than usual. The Board appointed from amongst their members a co-operative committee, composed of Mr. Priestley, the Vice-President, and Messrs. MacLeod and Church, all members of the Executive and living in or adjacent to Calgary. The committee reported to the Executive on all important matters of policy and the details of the enterprise, and secured their approval of the work undertaken. May I take this opportunity of conveying my appreciation of the splendid results achieved by the Executive and the Co-operative Committee,

## Agriculture

As the result of world-wide conditions, agriculture everywhere has suffered a virtual collapse. It is doubtful whether in the history of Western Canada, and more particularly the Province of Alberta, there has been any period when the purchasing power of the farmer has been so low as it is at present. During the year the prices of farm produce have been almost the lowest, and in some cases the lowest, on record. Recently there has been a very slight increase in the price of some of the agricultural commodities produced within the Province,

prices of agricultural commodities, it would still be impossible for the farmers to meet, in full, liabilities contracted during a period of high prices. On the one hand, we have the farmers producing the primary goods people require and selling their produce at prices below cost of production, thereby increasing their liabilities, and on the other hand, a large part of our population suffering from want because they have no purchasing power to buy the products of the farm which they require.

At a time when business enterprises everywhere have experienced grave difficulties, it was not to be expected that the farmers' co-operative organizations would prove immune. In spite, however, of the temporary measures which it has been necessary to take in some cases to tide over this period of stress, the soundness of the co-operative principle was never more widely recognized than today. It will be greatly to the advantage of agriculture in our Province if farmers will apply themselves assiduously to the strengthening of existing co-operative institutions, as well as to the extension of co-operative principles and practices into new fields.

## Provincial Affairs

In view of shrinking revenues, our Provincial Government has not been able to escape the financial difficulties which are almost universal. In the face of the Government's admirable record in the field of administration, only ignorance or partisan malice would attribute these difficulties to lack of efficiency. I do not hesitate to state that during my thirty years' residence in Western Canada, I have known of no government which has conducted the public business with comparable efficiency.

More than a year ago, as the outcome of negotiations which had extended over a long period of years, the Province obtained control of its natural resources. We have assumed full powers of administration, and are therefore responsible for the policies to be followed in their development. Successive Conventions of our Association have expressed the desire that there should be no further alienation of these resources to private interests, but that they should be developed, under public ownership, for the benefit of the present and future generations of our people.

## National Affairs

One of the outstanding features of our national history during the past year has been the tremendous increase of unemployment. The effect of unemployment appears to be progressive. When a substantial number of employees lose their positions their purchasing power is gone, and this in turn affects those who



PRESIDENT GARDINER

but the increase has been so insignificant that it hardly merits our attention. Even where crops were excellent, the returns barely covered the costs of production, leaving little or nothing to meet other liabilities. The prices of the goods and services which the farmer must purchase have been only slightly reduced in comparison with the prices received by the farmers for the products of their labour. Interest rates on bank and mortgage loans and other farm indebtedness remain as high as formerly. Even if commodity prices other than farm products were reduced to a parity with the present



are still employed, because of the lessened demand for goods and services. More and more lose their positions; purchasing power is still further reduced, finally resulting in the depressed condition in all phases of our national life, which we are now experiencing. Had it not been for governmental and charitable agencies affording some relief, a substantial portion of our population would today be starving in the midst of plenty. This relief, however, is inadequate to provide great numbers of our people with even the minimum standard of maintenance which our own Government departments have declared to be necessary to health and efficiency.

The seriousness of the position of our transportation system cannot be overlooked. Car loadings are steadily declining, entailing decreased revenues to meet running expenses and fixed charges. A Royal Commission has been appointed and is investigating the situation. Further comment on this matter would be unwise until such time as the Commission's report and recommendations are available. The railway situation is, however, an accurate index of general business conditions.

### Unbalanced Budgets

Further evidence of the extent of the depression is found in the inability of most governments in Canada to balance their budgets. In order to balance a budget under present conditions, decreased expenditure or increased taxation, or both, are necessary. To increase the taxes of those whose income is below or only at present on a bare subsistence level would be to increase present hardship. If, however, increased taxation were confined to those who have the ability to pay, viz., those whose incomes are more than is necessary to meet their reasonable requirements, no apparent harm would be done. To reduce expenditure upon services for the purpose of balancing a budget and to leave taxation as at present would have the effect of reducing the amount of purchasing power distributed and thereby increase the number of unemployed and add to the present problem. Another method of meeting budget deficits is to sell government bonds in amounts sufficient to cover the deficits, thereby increasing the permanent debt of the government involved. This method obviously provides no solution of the problem, but in the long run can only aggravate the difficulties of governments.

The depreciation of the Canadian dollar and its fluctuating value as expressed in international exchange, affords proof in my judgment of the soundness of the policies advocated by the Association and our Federal U.F.A. Members at Ottawa in regard to currency and credit reform. It is doubtful whether a single commodity such as gold can be successfully used under all conditions as a basis for the issue of currency and credit. With a few exceptions, the leading countries of the world have abandoned the gold standard. The same procedure was found to be necessary during the great war. These examples should be sufficient to convince the most ardent supporters of the gold standard that this basis is inadequate.

### International Affairs

The collapse of international exchange and the abandonment of the gold standard in most countries are the most significant developments in international affairs. There is a tendency to blame reparations

and war debts for what has occurred. While these debts and reparations present an immense problem, a still greater problem is the indebtedness of nations and individuals to private interests. It is doubtful if under the present economic system these liabilities can ever be paid in full. The legacy of post war conditions complicates matters considerably, but even if the problem of reparations had been non-existent, defects inherent in the present competitive economic system would sooner or later have produced a breakdown essentially similar to the one we are experiencing. Governments other than Canadian are having the same difficulty in balancing their budgets as are our own, and for similar reasons. Governments, like individuals, are subject to the debt creating processes of the system. Those processes are such that it is virtually impossible, except through bankruptcy, to reduce the aggregate indebtedness of the community to the private interests upon whom we have conferred by legislation the privilege of operating our financial mechanism.

The unprecedented growth during and since the war of industrial plant and equipment, capable of producing goods far beyond the power of consumers in the home market to buy, has intensified from year to year the competitive struggle for foreign markets between the industrial states of the world. The power of consumers in these foreign markets to absorb imports is just as limited as is their power to absorb their own home products, and it has been disastrously restricted by the shrinkage in incomes since the financial collapse of two years ago. It is in this intensified commercial competition between the nations that the chief threat to the peace of the world is to be found. While we shall all follow the proceedings of the forthcoming disarmament conference with eager desire that it may accomplish something to ease the present tension, we must recognize the fact that until underlying economic causes which make wars inevitable have been removed there can be no hope of lasting peace. The most fruitful field of research for those who wish to avert another international calamity upon an even more colossal scale than the last, is to be found in the economics of the existing competitive system. Such research would undoubtedly reveal the basis upon which alone permanent peace may be established.

### The Problem

The foregoing is a partial recital of the many problems with which we are faced. Some are more important than others, but they all merit our attention. To deal with a problem successfully, we must first have an understanding of the reason for its existence. All economic problems arise out of and become part of the particular social system under which they exist.

Under our present social system, we have some very striking contrasts, such as luxury-starvation, ease-overwork, wealth-poverty, abundance-scarcity, glut-tony-malnutrition, all inherent in and a product of the same economic environment. Notwithstanding the above mentioned contrasts, it must be admitted that the present economic system has accomplished more in the interests of the human race than all former systems combined. Under former social systems, such as that of slavery or feudalism, the spectre of want was ever present and inescapable. This was due entirely to the hand methods of production, together with the inability of producers to utilize,

adequately and efficiently for the sustenance of the people, the available natural resources.

### The Capitalistic System

Our present capitalistic system differs substantially from former systems, inasmuch as machinery is now the important factor in production. The discovery of steam and its utilization to drive the machinery of production was the basis upon which our present system was erected. Had it not been for the discovery of this or some such similar power, our present economic system and methods of production would have been impossible and it is more than probable that we should be still living under a social system similar to, if not quite the same as, the feudal system. With the use of steam to drive machinery of production, the inventive genius of man was stimulated, and from crude beginnings we have gradually improved productive capacity, until today, with our present efficient methods and machinery, we can produce all and more of the material things of life than are required to sustain our people in comfort. We could do this even with our present industrial plant and equipment if it were permitted to function to its full capacity—and today, owing to lack of purchasing power in the hands of consumers, it is notoriously working at but a fraction of its capacity. If, further, the inventive genius of our own generation, equipped as it is with scientific and technical knowledge unparalleled in any preceding age, were allowed full play, it could not only endow our people with a standard of living incomparably higher than the present one, but also provide them with an abundance of leisure for self-development.

It is becoming increasingly manifest, however, that the development and employment of industrial plant to its full capacity will not be attained under the present economic order. This is evidenced by the fact that the only remedy for the present evil of under-consumption prescribed by those who control the system is to curtail consumption still further by what is erroneously described as "economy". Economy properly understood is the orderly arrangement and management of the affairs of a community and the wise and efficient use of its resources. To reduce the power of the people to purchase the goods they need, when these goods can be produced in abundance, is not economy, yet the further reduction of the community's income is the only remedy prescribed by those who are concerned to retain the present economic system intact.

### Social Change Inevitable

Like all natural things, social systems are born, develop, reach maturity, decay, and die. The system under which we live will prove no exception to this rule. Whether it has reached its full maturity, we cannot positively assert. If it has not reached its full maturity, the present depression will pass. If it has, fundamental changes in the social system are impending.

I do not believe that the changes, when they come, will inevitably be in the interests of the masses of mankind. The elements which dominate the existing system will undoubtedly endeavour to guide the processes by which the succeeding system may be established. Those elements are to be found outside our parliamentary institutions; for in the light of recent history it is becoming

(Continued on page 8)



# The Twenty-fourth Annual Convention of the U.F.A.

Alberta Farmers Define Their Objective and the Means to Its Attainment—Earnest and Radical Thinking on Social Issues—Problem of Farm Indebtedness Issue of Immediate Urgency—The Convention in Retrospect



By the EDITOR

It was my privilege more than twenty years ago to attend one of the early Conventions of the United Farmers of Alberta, shortly after the amalgamation of the two pioneer organizations; and I have been able to follow closely from hour to hour the proceedings of every Convention of the past thirteen years with the exception of one. I have been present at none which gave such abundant evidence, among the body of delegates on the floor, of clear and earnest thinking upon fundamental issues.

Confusion there was, it is true, but it was a confusion less of thought than of procedure. No body of delegates representing the farm people of the Province as a whole have ever given such evidence of their determination to press on to a solution not merely of this immediate problem or that, but of the great and urgent task of social reconstruction. The Convention was ready to respond, and did respond as never in the past, to the clear presentation of the goal of our movement, which was defined in unmistakable terms in the memorandum on "The Co-operative Commonwealth" adopted by the delegates.

## Brooding Sense of Impending Change

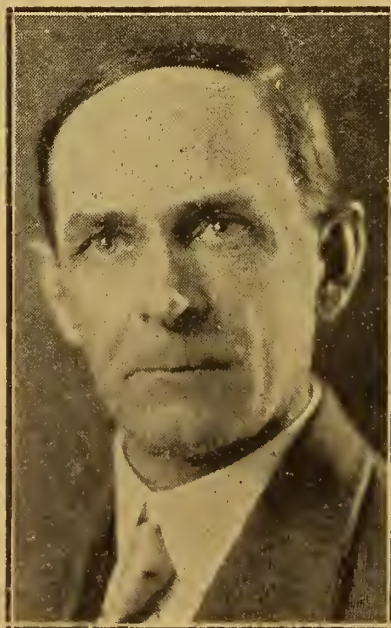
It was evident that the term "radical" as applied to any social policy, has lost its terrors. The long prevailing depression of the past two and a half years has been evocative of much deep thinking and study; the belief that the capitalistic system is approaching its full development and that we have entered the period of transition to the new social order is rapidly extending; the need to be ready for the transition, to be prepared so to direct the course of events that severe shock may be avoided, that change, when it comes, may be brought about with a minimum of suffering and hardship, was fully recognized. Overall was the brooding sense that there can be no return to former conditions, that in the course of its long evolution human society has perhaps reached one of those points where speedy change is vital to social survival. In the sense that they envisaged the social problem as a whole and realized the necessity for probing to the root causes of social injustice and economic breakdown—in this, the correct sense of the term—the Convention was "radical." And in this it gave surer grounds for hope than any that has preceded it.

While defining the objective of the movement the delegates, by their strong endorsement of the plan of co-operative purchasing under the control of the Association, showed that they are determined to do what can be done by industrial action in their own communities, to assist in laying in these communities foundations for the new social order. The local and district units of co-operators will be in a stronger position to bring their influence to bear in the wider field of financial and economic reconstruction by reason of the mobilization in their own districts of their purchasing power as consumers.

## Basis of Confusion

Such confusion as did occur arose, in the writer's judgment, largely from a direction given by the Convention of 1931 which was understood to mean that no reports should be read to the Convention other than the report of the Central Board, without a motion from the floor. In consequence of this, though all the reports of Committees were submitted to the delegates in printed form, none was read until the week was well advanced. If they had been read, they would have provided a basis for discussion of nearly a dozen major questions. Waste of time in debating "double" and "triple"-barrelled resolutions which after long discussion were sent back for redrafting, and consolidation, might have been avoided. To cite one example: much time was spent in ascertaining the views of the Convention on financial and credit and banking questions, several unwieldy resolutions being discussed and referred back; whereas the prior reading of the report of the Banking and Credit Committee would have focussed attention on the important issues from the beginning. There was really no doubt at any time as to where the Convention stood on the principle involved. Upon other subjects also, when at last delegates on the floor of the Convention began to ask for the Committee reports to be read, the situation was clarified and in many respects the last day and a half proved the most fruitful in clear-cut discussion.

## UNANIMOUSLY RE-ELECTED



NORMAN F. PRIESTLEY  
Vice-President of the U.F.A.

## Objective of Movement

In a brief address at the private session, President Gardiner called attention to the need to make unmistakably clear the meaning of the term "Co-operative Commonwealth" which had been declared to be the goal of our movement; and to define also the broad principles and methods to be followed in bringing about the transition. It was then that the Convention for the first time considered the memorandum on the subject submitted by the Board. Little time was required to show that, while there were dissenters on one or two points, the delegates in overwhelming numbers found in the memorandum a setting forth to their satisfaction of aims and methods. Every means to be employed to direct the forces of change—social control of the monetary system, voluntary co-operation, the transfer to public ownership and operation of such utilities and industries as cannot readily be organized through voluntary co-operation, the method to be followed in organization—were set forth, and the discussion of resolutions dealing with major issues of policy was greatly simplified.

"Until I came to this Convention," declared Colonel Robinson, "I was afraid to give a definition of the term 'Co-operative Commonwealth,' because it had not been dealt with by an Annual Convention. But we have it here, and we have it very plain. In my estimation, this is one of the most courageous declarations made by any group of people in Canada. We have an objective here, whose adoption, if we understand it, is the greatest step forward that the U.F.A. has ever taken." It would provide guidance for all the representatives of the Association in the Federal and Provincial houses, and to all its officers, and insure unity and cohesion and a standard by which the soundness of every detailed proposal might be judged.

Never has a Convention of the U.F.A. met in a time of such deep distress in the agricultural industry. The distress was reflected in the reduced delegation, the total being 343, including 92 from the U.F.W.A. and 5 from Junior Locals. But there has been no Convention of recent years at which the attendance right up to the hour of adjournment late on Friday evening, remained so good. There was little breaking of the ranks until the whole of the business of the Convention had been dealt with.

## Debts—the Dominant Issue

The prevailing distress was also reflected in the tense interest and attention—greater, perhaps, than was given to any other subject—with which the discussion upon the problem of farm indebtedness was followed from day to day. The discussion cannot be outlined at this time, but the sense was all pervading that it will be quite impossible under any circumstances that are likely to arise for agriculture in Alberta to liquidate its indebtedness—an indebtedness whose burden has been made intolerable by the disastrous fall in prices. The resolution calling for



a moratorium was defeated finally by the close vote of 59 to 55, after Premier Brownlee had given a clear presentation of the new difficulties for farm people which he believed would be exchanged for the old if a general moratorium were adopted.

It was their confidence in the Premier, and in his expressed determination to leave no stone unturned to work out a policy which will meet the pressing needs of the day, that led the delegates to leave in the Government's hands the handling of the present situation, without insisting that a general moratorium provides the only method. Immediately afterwards the Convention urged the extension of the Debt Adjustment Act to provide that there shall be no dispossession of debtors without recourse to the act, and also called for the drastic reduction of debts and drastic reduction or cancellation of interest until such time as the prices of primary products may again meet the cost of production. After the Convention's adjournment, the Central Board adopted a resolution urging decisive action to prevent any evictions under the Tax Recovery Act.

#### Why Resolution Defeated

It was, as they felt, with grounds for confidence that the Debt Adjustment Act would be extended in its scope at

once—that whatever is inadequate in the existing machinery would be made good—that the majority at the Convention defeated the resolution calling for a moratorium. There can be no doubt whatever that, if they had lacked confidence in the determination of the Government to take all necessary steps in the matter, they would have carried the resolution by an overwhelming majority.

The resolution, which formed the basis of a long debate, originated in the Camrose Federal Constituency, and pointed out, as amended, that while relief is necessary to cope with the immediate problem, it offers no solution, and asked that "both Federal and Provincial Governments should apply themselves to fundamental changes necessary in our economic system, and in the meantime bring about a moratorium applicable to all payments other than taxes until the purchasing power of the dollar is brought to that point where it will meet the cost of production in the Province and in Canada."

#### Premier's Statement

Premier Brownlee, who had addressed the Convention on the evening preceding the discussion, had dealt with the subject at length, pointing out that a moratorium has a merely delaying effect, but leaves the whole problem of working out a settle-

ment in regard to indebtedness unsolved. He expressed the opinion that "from the day a moratorium is put into effect, every farmer, not only during the moratorium, but for some years after, is put on a cash basis only, and his credit is destroyed." At seeding time and harvest this question of credit was an important one. He declared: "I believe, in the interests of the farmers of this Province, and in the interests of a revival of business, we will be best advised to seek to perfect the machinery we have started under our Debt Adjustment Act and try and work out the whole problem of debtor and creditor, serious as it is in Alberta, and serious as it is in some of the other Provinces of Canada." He showed that a moratorium would relieve even debtors who could well afford to pay, of the necessity of paying their debts.

Speaking later on the resolution, Mr. Macklin pointed out that a moratorium would at least permit farmers to carry on. Deflation had taken 100 billions of dollars in North America from one class and given it to another, and there was full warrant, he thought, for the relief asked for. "We don't control the monetary system in this Province," he said, "but we can say: 'You fellows that hold

(Continued on page 26)

## Goal of the U.F.A. Movement Defined by Annual Convention

A Definition of "The Co-operative Commonwealth" and a Description of the Steps Necessary to Its Attainment

In the Manifesto to the Farm People of Alberta issued by the Annual Convention of 1931, it was declared that "the hope of civilization rests upon human ability to build a Co-operative Commonwealth."

Prior to the Convention of 1932 a committee consisting of the President and Vice-president of the Association and the Editor of *The U.F.A.* was appointed by the Executive to draft a definition of the term "The Co-operative Commonwealth," with a view to the setting forth of the goal of our movement in clear and unmistakable terms. The draft was submitted to and adopted by the U.F.A. Central Board, and subsequently adopted by the Annual Convention on January 22nd, as follows:

#### Short Definition

1. A community freed from the domination of irresponsible financial and economic power, in which all social means of production and distribution, including land, are socially owned and controlled either by voluntarily organized groups of producers and consumers, or—in the case of the major public services and utilities and such productive and distributive enterprises as can be conducted most efficiently when owned in common—by public corporations responsible to the people's elected representatives.

#### Steps to Attainment

2. Since in the advanced stages of the present competitive or capitalistic social order, the key to economic power is possessed by those who are in control of the mechanism of finance, the transfer of such control from private interests to bodies responsible solely to the people's representatives is an essential step towards the attainment of the Co-operative Commonwealth. Until such transfer is effected, it will be impossible to

establish firmly, beyond danger of attack, any co-operative enterprise, whether this be communally owned or owned by a group of producers or consumers.

3. The transfer of control of financial institutions to the people, and the consequent substitution of the policy of Social Credit for the existing policy, will not be attainable until social units are organized in sufficient strength to free themselves from dependence upon the present strongly entrenched private interests. These interests dictate policy to the governments of all the industrially advanced states of the world, as well as to their economic dependencies. The prior condition of any advance towards the Co-operative Commonwealth, therefore, is the mobilization in social units of the masses of the people.

4. The private interests which, during the epoch of capitalism, are the arbiters of policy in industry and in the state, do not hesitate to make use of every available means to maintain their position of dominance. Financial power is now supreme. This power, together with economic power, is exercised, directly or indirectly, in every field of human activity, including the political. Those elements in society which are concerned to bring about the establishment of the Co-operative Commonwealth must therefore extend their efforts in order to succeed, over an equally wide field of activities. There is no single method by which alone their task can be accomplished. Voluntary co-operation in production and distribution; political action, and education and press—all these means must be employed efficiently, or there can be no reasonable hope of success.

5. The necessity for the rapid development of social units, and the acquiescent by individual members of such units of an intelligent understanding of the nature and evolution of social forces, is the more pressing



in that the existing order appears to be approaching its period of decline, if, indeed that period has not already been reached. Unless the masses of the people become equipped to take control of social policy, the passing of the competitive social order will be marked by great confusion and suffering and hardship. These evils will be much more acute than any that have been experienced hitherto in modern times; and the outcome may be the creation, not of a new social order such as the majority of mankind would desire, but of a dictatorship of those elements which now dominate in the old, endowed with far more tyrannical powers than it has been possible for them to exercise during the period of capitalism.

### Basis of Organization

6. Because community of industrial interest is the basis upon which any group of the people can most easily organize, it is on this basis, primarily, that organization needs to be undertaken. Organization on an industrial basis will not involve the narrowing of social sympathies when undertaken by men and women who realize that it is desirable and necessary as a means to the achievement of social ends. It will involve, on the contrary, a training in habits of co-operation within each industrial unit, and at the same time the preparation of the industrial unit for co-operation with other social units in the efforts to realize broad social purposes. This co-operation will lead to common action by all such units to bring the Co-operative Commonwealth into being.

### Characteristics of the Existing Social Order

7. The present capitalistic economic system, in the course of its development, has brought about an increase in the productive capacity of the advanced states of the world such as was undreamed of in any preceding epoch. It has provided the plant and equipment necessary to maintain a high standard of well-being for all. Its failure—and the failure is tragic and colossal—is in the field of distribution. Its productivity results in

glutting of markets with goods which cannot be consumed, because it fails to provide the masses of consumers with purchasing power sufficient to the acquirement of the sum total of the consumers' goods produced. A detailed analysis of the operation of the system, including the phenomena of so-called business cycles, is beyond the scope of the present memorandum; but the results of the operation of the system are painfully apparent. Unemployment increases in ratio with the volume of unsold goods. The building of indebtedness which can in the long run be discharged only through bankruptcy or repudiation in one form or in another is characteristic of and inherent in the system. Poverty, destitution, want, and economic warfare culminating in military warfare, are among its fruits.

### Characteristics of the Co-operative Commonwealth

8. Upon attainment of the Co-operative Commonwealth the forces of production developed under capitalism can be operated to the full extent necessary to provide for all social needs without danger of glut. This becomes possible because, through Social Credit, purchasing power in the hands of consumers is at all times adequate to acquire the goods produced. The building up of indebtedness through interest, profit and economic rent has ceased. Money ceases to be a commodity; it ceases to be, through monopoly, the master of man, as it is today, and becomes instead his servant, "finance" being merely an agent for the transfer of goods and services. The benefits of machinery and technical equipment, in so far as these are a social inheritance from preceding generations, are shared equally by all members of the community through Social Credit. In view of the abundance poured forth by industrial plant as, when and where required, the problem of determining what share each producer shall receive for work done, ceases to be a matter of serious importance. The Age of Plenty which is now inaugurated is the age of the Leisure State, in which, for the first time in history, the possibility of self-development is extended to every citizen.

## SERVILE STATE OR CO-OPERATIVE COMMONWEALTH? (Continued from page 5)

increasingly apparent that political governments occupy but a secondary place in the scheme of things. It is not inherently necessary that they should accept this subordinate role; but they choose to abdicate before the threat of irresponsible elements rather than to rally the people behind them, as they might, by a bold effort to free industry from its trammels. The real struggle for power goes on usually in secret, though of late years we have obtained revealing glimpses behind the scenes. The struggle is carried on by men who deal neither in glittering phrases nor comforting platitudes, but in hard facts—money, credit, the whole machinery of commerce and industry, and the manner of its control. They are realists, and some of the most influential of them are obsessed by the will to power, by the ambition to achieve complete control of the social system. If they do succeed in maintaining control of the processes by which a new social system must be brought into being, we may witness in the not distant future the ushering in, in its most perfect form, of the Servile State, the establishment, beneath, it may be, the guises of benevolence, of a tyranny such as the world has not yet known. They will succeed unless mass intelligence is so developed and mobilized

as to prevent it. If, on the other hand, mass intelligence is developed and organized in such a degree that it can control and guide the processes of change, we can confidently look forward to an age of plenty, to an era in world history, brighter, perhaps, than any which the human mind has yet conceived.

### The Choice Before Us

We are approaching the parting of the ways. The two paths lie before us. The choice is ours. If we choose to take the path to a better social order, we must be prepared, as Alberta farmers, to bear our share with other social units in this and other countries in directing the processes of change. To be effective, we must understand these processes and organize to control them. Organization without intelligent understanding would get us nowhere. It is equally true that intelligent understanding without organization is doomed to impotence. We must not neglect either one of these two essentials. Each is equally necessary. We must endeavour to bring about a unification of all our activities as farmers and citizens in order to cover the whole field of social reconstruction; and we must at the same time recognize the necessity of individual development.

The Local is the basis of our organization. The development of strength within the Local is essential to the effectiveness of our movement. Our power to accomplish anything in the wider fields of Provincial, national, and international affairs depends upon the degree of co-operation which we develop within the Local. The influence which the Local can bring to bear on the course of great events is, it is true, limited, but given the development of individual and mass intelligence which the Local alone can make possible, there is no task so great that in collaboration with other social groups similarly organized, we cannot confidently hope for its accomplishment. The Locals whose members are working together in the solution of the problems of their own neighbourhood, and at the same time envisioning the larger problems that lie beyond their immediate environment, are the Locals which can contribute most to the strengthening of our organization, to the development of our social, economic and political institutions, and finally, to the creation of a new social order.

At our last Annual Convention, we declared our belief that "the hope of civilization rests upon human ability to build a co-operative commonwealth." To that task we have set our hands.



# Central Board of United Farmers of Alberta Presents Survey of Past Year

Activities and Problems of Association and of Nation Dealt With in Report to Convention—"True Political Democracy Impossible Until We Have Developed Efficient Economic Democracy"—Need for Social Control of Financial System—The U.F.A. Plan of Consumer Co-operation

In the interests of economy only two meetings of the Board of Directors were held during the year—one immediately after our last, and one just before this Convention. The usual midsummer Board meeting was dispensed with, as was also the meeting with the Federal Members, and the heads of the Federal constituency organizations. It was necessary, however, to hold ten meetings of the executive and nineteen meetings of the co-operative committee of the Board, in order to give sufficient attention to the newly developing co-operative purchasing enterprise.

## Representation on Other Bodies

The list of other organizations at whose deliberations your Board was represented by one or more members is as follows: the Canadian Council of Agriculture; the Alberta Co-operative Council; the Debtor and Creditor Conference, and the Interprovincial Traffic Conference.

A conference was also held of the Provincial Cabinet, the U.F.A. Executive, and the U.F.A. Federal and Provincial Members to consider future action with respect to creditor and debtor relations and relief to distressed agricultural areas.

Your Board was also represented and made submissions at sittings of the Royal Commission on Grain Futures and the Royal Commission on Transportation, and was represented in the month of May at the conference in Saskatoon of the Premiers of the three prairie Provinces and representatives of other farm bodies with respect to the marketing of wheat.

The Executive during the year made many important representations, on behalf of the Board, to governing authorities by correspondence and wire respecting many important matters, notably the necessity for supplementing the five cent bonus to wheat growers with relief provisions for farmers in dried-out or hauled-out areas.

## U.F.A. Paper

Your Executive were successful in concluding satisfactory arrangements for the publication of the U.F.A. paper, in co-operation with the Wheat Pool Board. Expenses were curtailed by a reduction in the size of the paper, in the salaries of the staff, and in the cost of newsprint and printing.

## Membership

The membership, which in 1930 was 17,387, decreased in 1931 to 14,416, over seven thousand of whom had signed Wheat Pool authorization forms yielding no financial return whatever to Central Office during the year. This situation has rendered the operation of Central Office for the past year extremely difficult, and led the Executive, early in December, to announce that no new authorization forms would be accepted as payment of U.F.A. dues. Your Board will bring a resolution before this Convention dealing with this matter.

## Financial Standing

By the close of the year 1928 your organization was in possession of a substantial surplus, built up during the years immediately previous. Since that time, however, with the exception of the election year of 1930, this surplus has been heavily drawn upon, until we are now in the position of being able to function only as the funds are contributed by the membership.

## Political Representatives

We fully appreciate the difficulties faced by our political representatives, both at Ottawa and at Edmonton. Governing bodies have, to a great extent, become stretcher bearers for the wounded in the economic battle. The casualties of the present competitive system have become so great, and such a burden on the public in general, that many citizens, even of a conservative mind, are wishing to declare an armistice in the competitive struggle and start a new era of economic co-operation. The Canadian public is awakening to a realization of the extent to which those who own or operate the financial machinery of this Dominion also control the governing bodies thereof. We desire to especially commend the efforts of our Federal Members, who throughout a period of ten years have sought to impress upon the people of Alberta in particular and the public in general, facts with regard to the iniquities of a privately controlled financial system, the truth of which has now become apparent to all. Our farmer Members have fought for a financial system operated for the people, by a body responsible to the people. We are all beginning now to realize that a political democracy cannot be free to function in the interests of the public welfare under or alongside an economic autocracy functioning in the interests of private or corporate profit. In other words, we have become convinced that a true political democracy will be impossible until we have developed an efficient economic democracy, with leaders selected to carry on business as we now select leaders to carry on government. The efforts of the U.F.A. movement toward public ownership and also toward co-operative enterprise are two different roads travelled toward the same ultimate goal.

## Co-operative Purchasing

Co-operative purchasing is the other side of the subject of co-operation, as compared with marketing. We draw to your attention the fact that even in a depression period there are millions of dollars of purchases made in this Province. We also wish to note that the benefits of the lowering cost of manufacture are being largely lost to the consumer by the intensifying and costly competition between producers of goods for the consumer's business. The possibilities of co-operative purchasing lie in the fact that the purchasers by united action of

their own volition with a minimum of outlay, can place their business where they desire, thereby making possible a saving of large sums of money, which ordinarily go to pay for advertising, and agencies and general selling expense.

We desire also to draw the attention and gain the approval of prospective purchasers, for the co-operative policy of handling merchandise at prices in line with those prevailing in the community affected, and of retaining a small proportion of the resulting saving for the parent organization which made such saving possible. We desire to build up a substantial reserve fund against possible emergencies, to refrain from adding further physical properties to a capitalization along that line already too great, but to use facilities already in existence. We desire to capitalize the mental solidarity and constructive confidence of Alberta Co-operators in our efforts toward mutual benefits.

## Future Co-operative Policy

In the opinion of your Board, the past practice of setting up co-operative business organizations entirely independent of the parent body, has not been in the best interest of the co-operative movement as a whole. It has led to the dissipation and weakening of forces which it should have unified and strengthened. Therefore, acting on the advice of last Convention, your Board has decided that in the future, business organizations started by the U.F.A. shall be kept within the U.F.A.

We are keenly conscious of the fact that the desultory warfare of various co-operative bodies totally independent of each other, is ineffective against the concentrated power of capitalistic enterprise. We therefore conclude that it is in the best interest of the co-operative movement as a whole, that with respect to future co-operative business the power to unify and co-ordinate those efforts shall be kept within the parent body.

As a Board elected by the United Farmers of this Province to direct the efforts thereof, we reaffirm our conviction that our emancipation as agriculturists will be achieved by untiring effort along political as well as economic lines.

In general, your organization depends upon you and your individual efficiency and constructive power.

Also remember that you depend on your organization and the union of your strength with that of your fellow members to raise out of the slough of despond to the highroad leading to success that great occupation on which the welfare of so many directly, and almost all Canadian citizens indirectly, depend—the occupation of agriculture.

Guest: "Gosh, I wish I could afford a car like this!"

Owner: "So do I."



## ALBERTA WHEAT POOL SECTION

## POOL ELEVATORS WANT ANOTHER TEN MILLION BUSHEL

The problem now facing Alberta Pool elevators is to obtain the handling of a minimum of ten million bushels of grain between now and the end of July. That problem is the responsibility of every Pool member in Alberta. It is a matter of real importance to the Wheat Pool and Pool elevators and every grain grower who has a dollar invested in the elevators.

The patronage of Alberta Pool elevators to date has been good, but there is always room for improvement. In all Alberta a total of 101,177,996 bushels of all grains was delivered between August 1st, 1931, and January 8th, 1932. The Pool elevators received a fair share of this volume. A total of 86,830,340 bushels of wheat was delivered and according to the government estimate there is around 50,000,000 bushels of wheat yet in farmers' hands. Of course a large percentage of this will be used for feeding, for seed and for carryover on farms, but aside from that a considerable volume will be delivered to elevators before the end of the crop year. About 100 million bushels of coarse grains were raised in Alberta in 1931, according to the Federal Government estimate, and 14,347,656 bushels were delivered up to January 8th. That is more than the total bushelage of coarse grains delivered from the 1930 crop. Indications point to further substantial deliveries of coarse grains before the crop year ends on July 31st.

The result of the operation of Alberta Pool elevators this crop year is a matter of vital importance. Enemies of the organization believed it was doomed to failure before deliveries commenced. Since then a lot of them have been disappointed at the support given by Pool members and by growers who never were in the Pool.

This article is to impress upon all growers who yet have grain to deliver the pressing importance of delivering to Pool elevators. This year is witnessing the keenest competition for grain ever experienced. Every kind of promise and inducement is being offered to get grain away from Pool elevators. Pool elevators are determined to get at least ten million bushels between the present and July 31st. Every Pool elevator agent, every employee, delegate and director are bending their efforts to get the needed volume and the support of every grain grower is needed.

Alberta Pool elevators will give growers fair, efficient and equitable service. These elevators rely on large handlings for their earnings. The system is worthy of support and furthermore growers can protect their equity by giving this support at no sacrifice to themselves.

## PROF. FAY PRESENTS ANOTHER ANGLE

Dr. C. R. Fay, formerly professor of economic history at Toronto University, and recognized by Western Canadian farmers as an economist who has a friendly and sympathetic understanding with their cherished objectives, had a few things to say in the British Economic Journal about the report on trading in grain futures in Canada prepared by the Stamp Commission.

Dr. Fay is not a bewildered and non-plussed farmer climbing on the witness stand to provide a butt for the airy persiflage of Sir Josiah Stamp. He can discuss and elaborate on economic theories and facts shoulder to shoulder with Sir Josiah and speak with equal authority if less pomposity. Consequently his disagreement with the conclusions arrived at by the Stamp Commission cannot be cast aside.

One paragraph interpolated by Dr. Fay is herewith printed;

"The Pool of course, has been heavily hit, but only because it shared the bullish sentiment which was common to North America in 1929. The trade then went largely unhedged. When the price for Number Three Northern got wildly out of line in Liverpool with its equivalent, Argentine Rosafe, the Pool should have unloaded on the Exchange, and the Exchange would have howled. But the Pool did not, and it is paying now a heavy price. Nevertheless, the Pool in the shape now of three Provincial Pools selling separately is still very much alive. Whether the Pool could have done better is a matter of speculation. It is certain, however, that much of its energies were diverted from its objectives by having to counter at every turn the ceaseless hostility of the trade—not of the bankers, but of the trade. The Canadian West still has morale and mind and hope. It owes these to the magnificent educational work of the Pool over the last ten years. This is the foundation which stands today between the Canadian farmer and a quagmire of demoralization. The United States have sought to instal a similar foundation from above; and the main difference between the two is that in Canada the farmer out of his Pool assets is paying a substantial part of the price of bad times, while in the United States the Treasury is footing the whole of the bill."

It is true beyond dispute that the Canadian Wheat Pools in the hey-day of their power and prestige were targets for a campaign of abuse and slander unparalleled in commercial history. Their means of defence were limited to their own publicity organs, three in number, and a few friendly newspapers which became lukewarm once trouble appeared on the horizon.



## ALBERTA WHEAT POOL SECTION

## 1929 Wheat Pool Overpayment

Final selling spreads of 1929 crop have now been confirmed by our Central Selling Agency, and after including Provincial administration costs, as well as an adjustment of interest in connection with bond issue of the Provincial Government, overpayment on respective grades of wheat delivered to 1929 Pool on a per bushel basis works out to Alberta Pool members in accordance with the following schedule:

## Wheat—\$1.00 Basis

Grade	Overpayment in Cents
1 Hard.....	17.50
1 Northern.....	18.45
2 Northern.....	17.94
3 Northern.....	17.02
4 Northern.....	11.46
No. 5.....	6.10
No. 6.....	10.22
Feed.....	7.10
Tough 1.....	15.10
Tough 2.....	15.08
Tough 3.....	13.60
Tough 4.....	8.01
Tough 5.....	2.57
Tough 6.....	6.72
Tough Feed.....	3.58
Rejected 1.....	18.46
Rejected 2.....	18.22
Rejected 3.....	16.92
Rejected 4.....	11.37
Rejected 5.....	5.76
Dried 1.....	20.02
Dried 2.....	17.02
Smutty 1.....	15.69
Smutty 2.....	15.70
Smutty 3.....	14.75
Smutty 4.....	8.06
Smutty 5.....	1.90
Smutty 6.....	6.02
Smutty Feed.....	2.90
Tough Smutty 1.....	10.39
Tough Smutty 2.....	10.77
Tough Smutty 3.....	9.32
Tough Smutty 4.....	3.72
Tough Smutty 5.....	(1.48)
1 A.R.W.....	23.05
2 A.W.....	22.32
3 A.W.....	22.47
4 A.W.....	16.44
5 A.W.....	16.44
Rejected 2 A.R.W.....	21.34
Rejected 3 A.R.W.....	21.49
Rejected 3 A.R.W. Mxd. Htd.....	15.68
Smutty 1 A.R.W.....	21.07
Smutty 2 A.R.W.....	20.26
Smutty 3 A.R.W.....	19.35
A.R.W. & Rye.....	22.39
Tough Rej. 3.....	11.82
Tough Rej. 5.....	10
Damp 2.....	17.72
Damp 3.....	16.80
Damp 4.....	10.82
Damp 5.....	5.88
Damp 6.....	10.22
Damp Feed.....	6.87
1 White Spring.....	13.06
2 White Spring.....	12.12
3 White Spring.....	11.07
4 White Spring.....	16.93
Tough 2 White Spring.....	10.22
Tough 3 White Spring.....	7.85
Tough Sm. 3 White Spring.....	7.21
Rej. 1 Mxd. Htd.....	10.42
Rej. 2 Mxd. Htd.....	10.03
Rej. 3 Mxd. Htd.....	9.02
Rej. 4 Mxd. Htd.....	3.23
Rej. 6 Mxd. Htd.....	1.84

## Grade

Grade	Overpayment in Cents
Tf. Rej. 2 Mxd. Htd.....	3.53
Tf. Rej. 3 Mxd. Htd.....	3.10
Rej. 2 Mxd. Fireburnt.....	6.46
White & Red Spg. (special).....	32.35
2 Nor. & Amber Dur. Mxd.....	2.83
3 Mixed.....	15.22
4 Mixed.....	8.72
1 Durum.....	18.18
2 Durum.....	18.56
3 Durum.....	16.71
Dried Rej. 2 Mxd. Htd.....	9.02
Dried Rej. 3 Mxd. Htd.....	8.80
1 Condemned.....	(7.98)
Wheat & Rye.....	22.32
Broken Wheat.....	(15.64)
Red & White Spring.....	15.35
Rej. 2 Rej. Mxd. Htd.....	3.23

## Wheat—85c Basis

Grade	Overpayment in Cents
1 Northern.....	3.45
2 Northern.....	2.94
3 Northern.....	2.02
4 Northern.....	(3.54)
No. 5.....	(8.90)
No. 6.....	(4.78)
Feed.....	(7.90)
Tough 4.....	(6.99)
Rejected 1.....	3.46
Smutty 2.....	.70
Smutty 3.....	(.25)
Smutty 4.....	(6.94)
1 A.R.W.....	8.05
2 A.W.....	7.32
3 A.W.....	7.47
2 White Spring.....	(2.88)
4 White Spring.....	1.93
Rej. 3 Mxd. Htd.....	(5.98)
1 Condemned Htd. & Htg.....	(22.98)

Figures in brackets ( ) indicate a further payment to be made on such grades in the way of 1929 Final Payment. Where no brackets are indicated, figures as shown represent an overpayment in each instance.

Any Pool member interested in the overpayment on coarse grains delivered to 1929 pool, can obtain such information by writing direct to head office, Calgary, or enquiring of delegates, field representatives or travelling elevator superintendent.

Office staff of Alberta Wheat Pool are now at work calculating 1929 overpayment as it applies to the individual grower, based on bushels and grade delivered to 1929 pool, and as soon as such work is completed, statements will then be prepared showing the position of each member in regard to 1929 overpayment, as well as any amounts credited against same from 1928 final payment. It is proposed to take care of this work insofar as possible by our permanent staff, which is considered desirable from the standpoint of economy as well as that of efficiency. In view of tremendous volume of detail involved in calculation of accounts and preparation of statements, such will take some time before statements in final form will be available for distribution to Pool members.

## Brazil to Destroy Coffee

The Brazilian Government has decided to increase the export tax on coffee by 5s per bag to a total of 15s. This move

is announced as the forerunner of a coffee destruction campaign in 1932 which it is said will remove 12,000,000 bags of Brazilian coffee from stocks held. Prices reacted to this development very quickly in Brazil, but New York followed suit more gradually in view of considerable supplies on hand.

## Mencken to the Attack!

H. L. Mencken, the United States writer, has joined the ranks of the Farm Board critics. He advocates the doing away with the Farm Board, the Agricultural Marketing Act, and all other means to help the farmer and that the farms be turned over to large corporations to operate.

An idea of Mencken's style of attack is given by the following extracts:

"If the typical American farmer got only one meal a day, and had to go naked, he would still be grossly overpaid. He will be better off when the mortgage sharks rid him of his farm at last and he goes to work as a wage slave for his betters, that is, for men of normal intelligence."

"It is as silly for farmers to own their own farms as it would be for sailors to own their own ships," says Mencken. "Both belong to the lowest grade of labor, and are far too stupid to be trusted with the care of valuable property and the production of useful goods."

## Wheat Situation in France

Unfounded reports that the French Government has bought ten to twenty million bushels of Canadian wheat have probably arisen from the expectation that the French Government is about ready to raise the percentage of foreign wheat in French flour from 3 per cent to 10 to 15 per cent.

The French Government does not buy wheat but since November, 1929, it has limited the percentage of foreign wheat to be used in domestic flour, which action, coupled with an import tariff of 84 cents per bushel, has maintained the price of domestic wheat at a profitable level for the producers. Owing to complaints that the quota legislations were being violated by importers bringing in feed wheat and selling it to the mills, fresh regulations were put into force two months ago, the first providing for the coloring of all wheat imported for any purpose other than human consumption so as to render it impossible to use it for flour and the second compelling all importers to secure a license from the French Department of Agriculture for a specified amount before they could import wheat.

These permits are not transferable and must be presented to the port of entry before delivery is taken of the wheat. As a consequence many of the smaller French mills have ceased using any foreign wheat, with the result that there has been a further drop in the quality of domestic flour, and stocks of French wheat are now down to a point where importations of foreign wheat will not alarm French farmers. Some importers believe that the quota of foreign wheat before the end of the present crop year will be from 20 to 30 per cent and as French millers are partial to Canadian wheat, it is possible that the bulk of the business will come to Canada.



## ALBERTA WHEAT POOL SECTION

## News and Comment on Current Topics

**Canadian 1931 Business Failures**

There were 2,742 business failures in Canada during 1931 with total liabilities of \$46,215,000.

**Seventeen Million Dollar Loss**

Armour & Co., the great Chicago packing corporation, lost over \$17,000,000 in its operations during the past year.

**Huge Mortgage Indebtedness**

The mortgage indebtedness of the United States' farmers is estimated at a sum totalling over nine billion dollars.

**Dominion Government Wheat Bonus**

Up until the end of 1931 the Dominion Government had paid out \$6,762,813 as a wheat bonus to prairie wheat growers. Five cents a bushel bonus was paid on 135,000,000 bushels delivered.

**Wheat Shipments**

From August 1st to January 22nd, a total of 76,422,374 bushels of wheat were shipped from Canada. Stocks in store at that date totalled 191,867,732 bushels as compared with 206,211,791 a year ago.

**The Perfect Wheat**

Absurd claims are often made for new varieties for Canadian wheat, but none of them has gone so far as the praise that "Barleta", a popular variety of Argentine wheat, receives in a recent issue of *The Miller*. "Barleta" the article states, "is resistant to drought, rust, HAIL, excess heat, cold, damp, fog and LATE FROST." Barleta must be the perfect wheat.

**Wheat and Flour Exports From Canada**

During the five months from August 1st, 1931, to December 31st, 1931, 94,978,086 bushels of Canadian wheat valued at \$56,983,970 were exported. For the same period of the previous year 128,688,777 bushels valued at \$100,005,675 were exported. In the five months in 1931 the United Kingdom imported 56,976,083 bushels of Canadian wheat valued at \$33,550,542.

Flour exports from Canada for the period mentioned totalled 2,564,999 barrels valued at \$8,798,239.

**Predicts Bulk Selling**

Professor Stephen Leacock, of Montreal, an economist well-known throughout Canada, suggests that drastic changes in wheat marketing methods may develop. "There is already coming into existence, shadowy and undefined, a new idea of international trade calculated to supply a market in anticipation of production and thus guard against dislocation which now impedes us," he says in a recent article entitled "Beating Back to Prosperity." "This is the method of selling in huge quotas or blocks of goods, as when huge quantities of wheat sold are offset by wheat bought. The wheat is sold before it is planted, the coal before it is mined."

**Federal Bureau Wheat Summary**

International wheat trade has persisted on a generous scale under very difficult

conditions and there is no valid reason for thinking that the present financial and economic system will weigh more heavily on the wheat market in the coming six months than in the past six months. The Federal Bureau of Statistics records in a recent summary. The bureau points out that the reduction in crops of the Southern Hemisphere is 60,000,000 from 1930, equal to a month's world shipments, and suggests that while the Argentine and Australia will be heavy shippers for some time, North America will be called on for large shipments before the crop year ends.

**Final 1931 Wheat Crop Estimate**

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issued its final estimate of Canada's 1931 grain crops on January 21st. The new estimate increases the wheat yield by six million bushels, being 304,144,000 bushels as compared with 420,672,000 bushels for the crop of 1930.

The figures for the Prairie Provinces are:

	Wheat Production	Wheat Acreage
Alberta.....	136,000,000	7,999,895
Saskatchewan..	121,000,000	14,775,047
Manitoba.....	27,000,000	2,577,780
Total.....	284,000,000	25,352,722

The rest of Canada produced 20,144,000 bushels, according to the final estimate.

**Co-op Leader "Knighted"**

H. J. A. Wilkins, Chairman of the Board of the English Co-operative Wholesale Society, is now a knight. Sir "Harry" spent a few weeks in Canada four years ago and is a most genial, democratic, bluff and friendly Englishman, devoted heart and soul to the co-operative movement to which he has devoted his whole life. He is this year completing twenty-five years' service on the C.W.S. board. He began his work on behalf of the movement in the Plymouth Co-operative Society, was a member of its management committee for some years, and was first elected of the C.W.S. Board in 1907 and presided over the National Co-operative Congress held at Plymouth in 1910. He is the senior member of the board, and has been President since July, 1924.

**U.S. Winter Wheat Conditions**

The four great winter wheat states are Kansas first, with over eleven million acres, Oklahoma second, with four million acres, Texas third, with 3,678,000 acres, and Nebraska fourth, with slightly over three million acres. The January mid-month report for Nebraska states that present soil moisture conditions are favorable over the greater part of the state, but with subsoil moisture supplies still short in southwestern, western and some north-central counties. Winter wheat acreage has been reduced considerably and may result in further reduction due to winterkill, as there is some apprehension that the packing and freezing of recent heavy snows may tend to smother the wheat.

Winter wheat was sown in the United States on 38,682,000 acres, a reduction of 4,467,000 acres, or 10.4 per cent from the sowings in the fall of 1930. The general condition of the United States

winter wheat crop in December was the lowest since 1890 with the exception of 1917 and 1921.

**World Wheat Production**

The world's annual production of wheat is somewhere in the neighborhood of five billion bushels, although the figures generally quoted give the world crop as about three and a half billion bushels. This is due to the fact that only 41 countries give approximately correct figures of their wheat acreage and crop. Russia's wheat crop the past two years has been between nine hundred and eleven hundred million bushels (probably around a billion bushels). China's average wheat crop is estimated as between five and six hundred million bushels. Figures for both China and Russia are so uncertain that nearly all estimates of world wheat crops refer to both these important wheat producing countries in their foot notes. Out of this vast sea of wheat only between seven hundred and nine hundred million bushels a year enters into world commerce. The rest is eaten at home. Huge wheat crops in the principal exporting countries and large crops of high quality in the principal importing countries, coupled with record crops of coarse grains, vegetables and fruits, built up a world surplus considerably above normal in 1928-29. This surplus is slowly shrinking and undoubtedly would now be down to about normal except for the severe economic and industrial depression in all wheat importing countries and the drastic steps taken by European Governments by high tariffs and quota regulations in restricting wheat imports and encouraging the consumption of domestic grains. One poor crop in the principal surplus countries could very easily reduce the carryover to dangerously low figures for importing countries, just as another big crop might make conditions still worse for the wheat growers of Canada, Australia, the Argentine and the United States.

**Wheat Pool Meetings**

Wheat Pool meetings were held at Gladys and Blackie on the afternoon and evening of January 28th. The delegates, J. O. Anderson and Spence Morrison, were in attendance. R. O. German, Pool secretary and A. W. Crummy, elevator superintendent, addressed these meetings and were given a favorable reception.

**Heifer Is Mother of Quadruplets**

"I thought it might interest some of our readers to know that a two-year-old heifer belonging to Harry Ancion of this Hamlet, dropped four fine calves January 14th," writes H. Durant, Wheat Pool agent at Lousana. "Mr. Ancion stayed in the barn until three were born, it being a cold night, and thinking any respectable heifer should be satisfied with three calves, left her and went to bed, but on going to the barn in the morning there was another. Two are jet black and two typical Herefords. I might say the heifer and calves, also Mr. Ancion, are all feeling fine. Can any of our readers beat this for a year of depression?"

(Other Wheat Pool News on Page 14)



## News from the Head Office of Alberta Livestock Pool

Information for Members of Canadian Livestock Co-operative (Alberta) Ltd.

### Co-operation and Courage Can Save Agriculture

By F. McDONALD, Secretary

Well, another year has passed by, and we are fast approaching the testing in our organization. I have not a great deal to say to you, as I feel that the issue is pretty much in your hands and that the fate of our great co-operative undertakings, in fact of civilization itself, is going to be decided by the part played by each of you in these collective undertakings.

We have organized and trained ourselves in Canada into a gigantic army who for several years have been loyally fighting for better conditions for agriculture, and during all that time I have continually said that we had not yet reached the front line trenches, but that when we did reach them it was going to require a type of courage that had seldom if ever been displayed by civilized man.

I now feel that that time is fast approaching when that type of courage, coupled with a similar type of intelligence and loyalty, is going to be required to save agriculture, yes even civilization, from despair, and in so doing that great giant SELFISH GREED must of necessity be overthrown. I might say in passing that the task is not one which agriculture can solve alone, but is one confronting all producers of wealth. *Can we each deliver the goods?*

#### Time to Take Stock

I think this would be a good time to take stock and ask ourselves a few questions, as follows:

Why did we organize the Livestock Pool in the first place?

Was it because the old system of marketing our livestock had failed to meet the needs of the producers?

If so, have we any reason to believe that the old competitive system would do the job any better now than it did before, if we went back to it?

Do you believe that the co-operative system is an improvement over the competitive one, and has your organizations been worth while?

Would you be concerned or sustain any loss if the Pools were to cease to operate?

Do you believe that the Livestock Pool would be effective if it controlled more volume and that stock sold outside the Pool, especially direct to packers, is a direct shot at the Pool?

If your answer is "Yes" to the last two questions, then should you not, at last, forget that the competitive system exists and think and act in terms of co-operation, for we will never build up a successful marketing system except upon a co-operative psychology. No half and half measures can fully succeed.

Do you believe that your Pool would be in business today, to say nothing of its steady growth, if it had not, in part at least, met the needs of the producers?

#### Purchase Small Packing Plant

The Board of Directors have purchased a small packing plant in the city of Edmonton which will be operated by us in a short while; and I would like to say

now that this is a small undertaking but will, we hope, grow, provided the necessary capital is provided. We realize that times do not warrant heavy capital levies, but if we start at the bottom with a sound policy to build on and move upward (even although what we do is not spectacular at first) being sure of our position at all times, providing what capital we can as we go along, I am not afraid of the outcome.

#### No Bank Borrowings

The policy has not entirely been decided upon, but until the Annual Meeting in March we will buy our requirements on the market, paying for it in full and operating absolutely on a cash basis—no borrowings from banks, etc. I believe that is the safe way to continue to operate. There will not be an initial payment to the farmer, his stock being paid for just the same as if it were sold to any other packer.

A subsidiary has been formed, and the packing business is entirely separate

from the selling agencies and will be on its own.

We trust that all Associations will send in the capital moneys on hand, and take steps to collect—a little at a time of course as the producers can stand it—outstanding share capital as fast as possible, for it depends on capital as to how fast we expand.

No doubt you will hear through your locals more of the details, as my space is limited.

#### UNDER PRIVATE OWNERSHIP

"... It is safe to predict that, until, or unless, radio ceases to be an instrument of commercial advertisement, the general run of American programs will continue to be no more than ably prepared pabulum for a fourteen-year-old mentality. . . ."—Tyrone Guthrie.

#### RADIO PROPAGANDA

"Americans should be humiliated to know that . . . powerful broadcasting groups in this country are engaged in active propaganda against the public ownership movement in Canada. It is bad enough that we should permit a medium which clearly should have been devoted to the finest human arts to be degraded for the distribution of soap and toothpaste. It is far worse that our radio capitalists should exert pressure, through the air, upon the opinion of a neighboring country, in an attempt to enforce our own dull, merchandizing spirit upon it."—*The New Republic*, New York.

## Committee on Organization Presents Report

Twelve Recommendations Made to U.F.A. Convention and Adopted by the Delegates

Your Committee on Organization has to report that in their opinion the success of this organization does not so much depend on having a great number of members as on having the organization progressing in a sane and harmonious way. We believe that it is not so important that this organization should stress speedy development as it is that it should progress along safe and sound lines.

The economic attainments of the organization in past years have resulted in the formation of a number of associate organizations that have tended to reduce the strength of the parent organization. The change of policy adopted by the 1931 Convention of this organization, whereby the material benefits of the united activity are shared by the whole association, as well as by the individual members thereof, will in our opinion effectively contribute to the stability of the whole movement. This organization has expressed its desire that the benefits connected therewith shall be available only to the individuals who comprise the organization. Success in this field of co-operative endeavor would, without doubt, greatly encourage membership in the Association.

The co-operative purchasing field offers great possibilities for furthering the organization's work in the U.F.A. Association. However, it should be kept in mind that failure in this field would have a disastrous effect on the whole movement. It is, therefore, imperative that action along this line be undertaken with especial care. We wish to point out that in our opinion the following important rules should be borne in mind:

1. That we proceed slowly in purchasing to make a success of a few commodities rather than a partial success with many.
2. That the Central Association lay down a definite policy governing all branches of the Association.
3. Central to have power to call meetings in any local district association for cause.
4. That a uniform bookkeeping system be established.
5. Quarterly reports should be made by all the District Associations to Central.
6. That overhead of all associations should be as closely uniform as possible.
7. Dividends to members to be as uniform as possible.
8. That fixed dates be set for payment of dividends.
9. That the principle of selling at current price levels be followed, with definite instructions that there be no price cutting in any association.
10. That any surplus of commodities, should such occur in any locality, be reported to Central to facilitate redistribution of same.
11. We particularly advise that in the initial stages of organization only bulk commodities be handled.
12. That a strict auditing system covering all branches be inaugurated.

That we continue to work toward the co-ordination of all co-operative activities.

All of which is respectfully submitted

D. MacLACHLAN,  
I. V. MACKLIN,  
FRANCIS FRY.



## ALBERTA WHEAT POOL SECTION

# Canada's Leading Wheat Province Faces Problems Bravely

The Province of Saskatchewan has a record of wheat production which is unsurpassed by any other Province or state of anything like equal size in the entire world. With a total population of less than a million people, Saskatchewan produced an average annual crop of 237,879,660 bushels of wheat over the five-year period from 1925 to 1929. This is a production greater by over a hundred million bushels than the average annual production of the entire continent of Australia for the same period, and is only five million bushels short of the average annual production of the entire republic of Argentina for that period. Saskatchewan wheat production over the five years mentioned is double that of the German empire, larger than the wheat production of Italy by eight million bushels and more than four times the production of wheat in the British Isles.

Saskatchewan annually seeds some 14 million acres of her land to wheat and in 1928 produced a record crop of 321,215,000 bushels. Year in and year out the great middle prairie Province produces a great deal more than half of all the wheat raised in the Dominion of Canada. The only exception to this record is 1931 when Alberta's wheat crop is estimated at 135,000,000 bushels as compared with 117,000,000 for Saskatchewan.

## Ravages of Soil Drifting

Saskatchewan encountered an unusual and bitter experience last year. While the southern part of that Province, like areas in the southeastern part of Alberta, has been intermittently troubled with lack of rainfall, the drought encountered in 1931 by Saskatchewan extended northward to an unusual extent, taking in large areas north of Regina and Moose Jaw and causing a devastation among field crops unprecedented in the history of the Province. Added to the depredations of the drought, high winds prevailed for weeks causing soil drifting and ruined crops to such a degree that people of the Province, farmers and city residents, were appalled. While soil drifting has been a more or less common experience in areas with light soil in southern Alberta, it was an unusual catastrophe for central Saskatchewan. The Regina plains, famed the world over as a wheat raising area, experienced soil drifting in 1931 which raised clouds of dust a mile high about the city of Regina, left thousands of acres of fields with the seed kernels lying on top of the ground, and filled in ditches as well as drifted up roadways like winter snows.

All Saskatchewan was astounded and frightened by the combination of drought and soil drifting. Discouragement was soon followed by a revival of hope and determination to "do something about it." The Government of Saskatchewan appointed a commission on afforestation, conservation of moisture and soil drifting. This commission gathered a group of experts from the University of Saskatchewan, famed for its agricultural courses, the Federal and Provincial Departments of Agriculture and Forestry Departments. The problem was tackled in earnest, many conferences held, and it was finally decided to appoint a sub-committee which was asked to (1) summarize the main ideas submitted at the conferences; (2) submit

practical plans to carry out soil drifting control.

## Problem Defined

The following is a summary of the first part of the task assigned to this committee:

(1) Rainfall is by far the most important factor in crop production; (2) There would not be the remotest chance of doing anything which would tend to influence or modify the climate to any appreciable extent; (3) Periods of drought are sure to occur from time to time; (4) The most important means for conserving moisture and controlling soil drifting have to do with methods of cultivation.

The sub-committee then submitted a lengthy report. It recommended that work be done with regard to afforestation and water conservation and concluded the report with some definite recommendations for the control of soil drifting by cultural methods.

It was recommended that an area of at least nine sections in a square block be selected in the drift country and completely hedged along road allowances and the farms hedged in 40 or 80 acre fields. It was felt that this would be in the nature of a large experiment to ascertain the results of hedging in preventing soil drifting. If successful the idea could be extended throughout the affected areas. In connection with this it was also recommended that the farmers continue to plant shelter belts, obtaining trees from the Dominion Government through its forestry branch, as has been done for the past thirty years.

It was suggested that every assistance should be given farmers in locating underground water and in developing small irrigation projects, also in conserving run-off water.

## Practices Recommended

The committee pointed out that soil drifting is caused primarily by drought

and that nothing can be done to prevent dry years in areas of relatively low precipitation. Large areas of summer fallow are indispensable in order to provide a sufficient reserve of moisture in the soil for crop needs. Such summer-fallowed areas provide favorable conditions for soil drifting when seasons are abnormally dry. To provide against drifting as far as possible, farmers should endeavor to create a lumpy, cloddy condition on the soil surface which will offer resistance to wind erosion. Considerable protection of the soil surface from wind action is also afforded by straw and stubble remaining from the previous crop. This material should not be burned as a preliminary step in summer-fallow work, neither should it be completely buried by ploughing.

## Plowless Fallow

In recent years the plowless fallow has rapidly increased in favor. This method aids in retaining the stubble and rubbish near the surface and this helps to prevent drifting. Cultivators can be used to destroy weed growth but cultivating should not be done where there are no weeds to kill. On light and medium soils the duck-foot cultivator is satisfactory for the control of both weeds and drifting.

If for weed control or any other reason ploughing of the fallow is necessary, the stubble will be buried and cannot be used as a protection of the soil. Cultivator ridges and clods are then the only means available for checking wind action.

## Strip Farming

Regarding strip farming, it is pointed out the method consists in laying out the farm in strips varying in width from 12 to 20 rods with the length of the strip extending north and south. The usual practice is to crop and fallow the strips alternately, thereby maintaining crop or stubble adjacent to every strip of

## PRAIRIE BRED

If you are prairie bred, there seems to be  
A sort of fellowship that speaks to me,  
You talk of wind and I can feel the sting  
Of drifting soil that darkens all the spring.  
You speak of dawn and I can see the sky,  
Flaming with light to drive the darkness by.

You talk of wheat, and I can see it wave,  
And smell the nutty fragrance that it gave,  
Back to the soil like incense on the air.  
I hear the hum of binders everywhere,  
The red of briars glowing in the wheat,  
The scent of sod, the quivering tides of heat.

We talk of early times and I go back  
To happy days when we lived in a shack,  
Papered with magazines, I see it all,  
Those home-made bunks, nailed up against the wall  
A sturdy home-made shelf, a water-pail  
A lonely bit of trodden dusty trail.

And though we find a kinder dwelling place,  
Where Nature wears a softer, lovelier grace,  
Still they are dear, those memories we keep,  
Old fleeting ghosts that come and haunt our sleep  
Making us kin forever, you and I  
We who have known the sweep of earth and sky.

EDNA JAKUES.



## ALBERTA WHEAT POOL SECTION

**In Topsy-Turvy Land!**

allow so as to protect the fallow from the wind. To be most effective, strip farming should be adopted by entire communities.

The report states that soil drifting usually begins in the late winter and continues through the spring until after the crop has been seeded. It rarely occurs during the summer-fallow season.

The committee evidently has gone into the problem with great thoroughness and presented a very comprehensive and valuable report. It is obvious that Saskatchewan is determined to do all that is humanly possible to effectively deal with a serious menace. While alarm was felt over the situation which developed last year, the people of Saskatchewan are quite hopeful that the problem can be met successfully, particularly if moisture conditions for the next few years are propitious.

**Canadian Wheat Ground in Bond**

During 1931 a total of 19,182,000 bushels of Canadian wheat was ground into flour in bond in Buffalo, N.Y. This, on the basis of 4½ bushels to the barrel, is equivalent to 4,262,666 barrels. The Canadian Flour Millers' Association is protesting against this practice, pointing out that exports of flour direct from Canada last year totalled only 6,893,530 barrels.

**As Men and Monkeys View It**

Perhaps the following figures from reports of the United States treasurer and bureau of statistics may shed some light on at least one fruitful cause of our present business depression.

In 1920 incomes of \$1,000,000 or more totalled \$77,078,139. In 1929 they totalled \$1,185,135,330. In 1930 incomes of \$5,000 or less totalled \$15,274,217,215. In 1929 they totalled \$8,282,000,000.

Thus in the last ten years the many skilled workers, small business men and the professional classes, those who usually spend about all their income, keeping the money moving in the channels of trade, have had their incomes cut almost in two, while the super-rich, who were already receiving vastly more than they put back into the channels of trade, now have fifteen times as much income as they had ten years ago, and are obliged to hunt "foreign markets" to loan their "surplus" because the dear people at home have no more gilt-edged security to put up for it.

Our wise statesmen and expert financiers seem somewhat addled, according to all their conflicting pronouncements, regarding the cause of and cure for our distressed condition. Among the numerous causes they assign they would have us believe it is because our granaries and banks are bulging with a "surplus" of commodities and money. Yet we see millions of our people suffering from want.

We believe there would be no suffering from hunger among a tribe of monkeys because nature had produced more coconuts than the monkeys could consume. But had they been endowed with as much intelligence as our efficiency experts and had nature also made all the leaves on the trees dollar bills, most of the poor monkeys would have to go hungry to bed because of an overproduction of food and an inflation of the currency.—*The Golden Age*

Why must so many of us go hungry? Because our granaries and elevators are bursting with food.

Why must so many of us wear shabby clothes? Because there is too much wool and cotton in the world, too many mills and too many garment workers.

Why must so many of us live in dilapidated shacks? Because we have too much lumber, too much steel, too many carpenters, too many plumbers, bricklayers and plasterers.

Why doesn't the business world go

ahead and create enough wealth to banish poverty? Because our productive capacity is far too great.

If we have too much wealth in some places and too little in others, why can't we transport the wealth to the places of great need? Because we have too many railways, too much railway equipment, too many trucks, too many railroad workers, too many chauffeurs. And far too much coal and gasoline.

Why don't we put enough money in circulation to move this vast stored up wealth? Because the banks are embarrassed with huge hoards of money savings.

**British Consumer Co-operative Viewpoint on World Wheat Problem**

"If the world wheat supply is to be effectively regulated, the consumers' movement must create machinery to enable it to deal directly with the producers. To undertake collective international purchase of grain would be a big step forward for the Co-operative Movement, a step, which in the opinion of many, may involve too great risks. But the risks involved in the combination of wheat producers *without any control by consumers* are far greater, and sooner or later, the movement must face the necessity for an extension of its principles, regulation of distribution on non-capitalistic principles, to the most essential consumption commodity."

The above summary concludes an article on the subject of: "Wheat and the Consumer; the Possibilities of International Control," written by Doreen Warriner, B.A., Ph.D., Fellow Somerville College, Oxford, Eng., which was printed in *The Review of International Co-operation* a short time ago. Extracts are given herewith because of the different viewpoints that may not be in accord with those held by farmers in wheat exporting countries.

"Nowhere in the world at the present time can the farmer produce wheat at a profit. The present price does not cover costs of production even under most favorable conditions. With the object of making a combination which would maintain prices, the wheat exporters of the world met in London last spring. They failed completely; every exporting country urged the necessity of control of the market, but no country was prepared to make the necessary sacrifice.

**Need For Control**

"Yet control there must be. The breakdown of the London Conference means continued disorganization of the world's agricultural production. Letting things go at the present moment does not mean let them return to the normal state of affairs in which economic forces themselves will bring about a proper adjustment of demand and supply, but letting disorganization continue. 'Natural forces' will not work out a remedy, even when general economic revival comes, it will not blot out the wheat problem, since the price fall has only been intensified by the general crisis, not caused by it. Nor, can economic nationalism bring any permanent assistance."

The author then presents proposals for successful marketing of wheat and

suggests that control of both supply and demand would be necessary. She says:

"The world wheat area includes five continents, millions of producers working under entirely different conditions. Every producing unit feels that other countries should be the first to make the sacrifice involved in a reduction of the area, and no single country, therefore, is likely to reduce the area of cultivation unless it is certain of getting as big a return for the smaller output at the higher price as it did for the bigger output with the lower price. Therefore, the central marketing organ must be able to guarantee demand at a fixed price: it must be able to deal directly with consumers' organizations.

**Requires Consumers' Support**

"That is, a world wheat marketing board will require the support of the consumer. Under what conditions could the consumer consent to support a wheat producers' combine? Obviously under no condition at all, if the combine was a capitalistically organized one. If a cartel of producers of manufactured goods may be injurious to the consumer, how much more injurious might be a world cartel of producers of an essential food supply.

"But a combine of wheat producers need not be a capitalistic cartel. Farming is not a capitalistic industry and only has appeared to be so in the last half-century owing to unusual circumstances which will not endure. Up till the early nineteenth century, 'farming for profit' was the exception, not the rule. Then came the great expansion of British industry, and the 'golden days,' high profits, low costs, when British farmers were supplying an expanding market, which lasted until corn from the American Middle West and Canada, and meat from Argentina and Australia came flooding into the European market, to ruin European farming as a commercial proposition for ever. Agriculture in Europe continued as a non-commercial proposition, a way of making a living, because continental states stopped at nothing in the way of protection. From agrarian Eastern and Central Europe, where conditions were poorest, began a great stream of migration to the new lands where men might still get rich as farmers.

**Says 'Profit' Days Ended**

"But now overseas farming prosperity is coming to an end, and would have come to an end apart altogether from the present



crisis. It is true that farming overseas is infinitely more remunerative with its good land and little labor than farming in Europe. But the area of cultivation is no longer expanding and demand is not increasing. That is not to say that no cultivator of the land will ever make a profit again, but in bread crops at any rate, the profit seems likely to be the exception rather than the rule. The world crisis has reduced the overseas farmer to the position of the European peasant; in future he will want to make a living, not a profit; he will prefer prices to be fixed at a decent level, rather than to be fluctuating between high and low levels, to which he cannot, nature being what it is, adjust his production.

#### Farming For a Living

"Therefore, if a combine of farmers is to be formed to stabilize wheat prices, it must be based on the co-operative principle; its object must be to secure to the farmer a living, not to give him a profit which the economic nature of

agricultural production does not justify. In principle, the consumers' organizations could co-operate with a wheat marketing organization constituted on these lines.

"Could they also co-operate in fact? If a world wheat marketing organization of any kind were to come into existence, its first object would be to prevent over-production, and the consumer naturally feels that the existence of widespread want side by side with surplus wheat stocks is due to a breakdown of the capitalistic system, and represents over-production from the capitalistic point of view, production beyond the profitable amount, not production beyond the consumer's real needs.

#### Guarantee Against Exploitation

"Only an international organization for purchase of wheat from the producers' combine could act as a guarantee against exploitation. Mr. Lustig, the General Manager of the Central Union of Czech Co-operative Societies (which undertakes big purchases of wheat in the interna-

tional market) recently said that a bread price of 1.8 Czecho-Slovak crowns per kg. of bread (5d. for the 4 lb. loaf) was regarded as a limit beyond which the retail price should not go. In each country it should be possible to arrive at similar lists, varying with the consumption of bread, which could be fixed as a guide for the purchasing of wheat from the producers' combine.

#### MEN TO SET THINGS RIGHT?

There is no difficulty in ascertaining the views of the able business men of today. They are published every day in the press. And they present about 200 different and conflicting "able" views, which, if put into operation at once, would probably cause a civil war and hold up the traffic. In fact, a free hand would mean a free fight. . . . The argument here is that the only men who can put a wrong system right are the men who created the wrong system—"Yaffle" in *The New Leader*.



## "This Life Insurance Business"

By W. E. SIDDALL



### PART VI.

#### In Which We Answer Some Critics

This week, we assume that space will be at a premium, so we will make our story short. We hope you will find it snappy. Since commencing these stories we have received some communications, and at least two of them were very critical of us generally. One criticized our general lack of style and apparent ignorance of the rules of grammar and punctuation; the other our general unfairness and disregard of any understanding of the ethics of journalism. According to this last writer, we are quite evidently among those the playwright spoke about—who suffered from a mind diseased.

#### Our Ignorance of Grammar

Insofar as the first-named critic is concerned, we wholeheartedly admit our ignorance of the rules of grammar. We could not if our life depended on it, parse or analyse a single sentence, and as for punctuation, well, we know a comma or a period when we see it, but its significance is another thing altogether. We might say in passing, that had we any knowledge of these things we probably would not have spent so much of our life doing the world's dirty work, we would likely have been wearing a white collar; we might even have been an insurance man.

Our second critic, although he is not very nice about it, nevertheless touches a very important point, and one we shall be forced to answer. No writer, not even an amateur, likes to be charged with being unethical, unfair, and certainly no good purpose can be served by these articles if there is any body of readers with the impression that we are weighting the dice in order to build up a case.

The critic says, it is obviously unfair, (and that we were aware of it) to compare the cost ratio of the Prudential of England with the Canadian Companies. He then goes on to say, that the Pru-

dential is probably the most economically run company in the world, etc., etc.

In answer to this charge let us say two things. In the first place the Prudential of England is by no means the most economically operated company in the world; and secondly, if we had deliberately set out to make unfair comparisons, we could have chosen a half dozen well managed British companies that would have served our purpose much better than the Prudential of England.

#### The Evidence

Now for the evidence. Sitting on the packing case which does duty for a desk, is a little book that has been published in London, England, for the last sixty-two years. According to the publisher, every care has been taken to make it an authoritative work, and as a matter of fact it is the bosom friend of that class in society which takes its morning nourishment from *The Times*, or *The Morning Post*. Like Caesar's wife, it is above suspicion.

Let us see what it says about Life Insurance. Turning to the section dealing with this subject we find seventy-four companies listed, with their premium income, and their expense ratios. Of these, sixty-six are British, four are Canadian, three are Australian, and one is African. The ratios as given can be classified as follows:

Expense Ratio to Premium Income	Companies
Less than 12%.....	12
From 12 to 16%.....	32
From 16 to 20%.....	12
From 20 to 24%.....	8
From 24 to 30%.....	6
From 30% up.....	2
Not shown.....	2
Total.....	74

From the foregoing table it will be seen that we could have taken not less than twelve companies with an expense ratio

as low or lower than the Prudential. Among these, for example, is the London Life (England) with an expense ratio of 5.59 per cent. This company had a premium income of \$6,778,000 and the expenses of management were \$378,000. Just by way of comparison we may say the London Life of Canada had a premium income, (ordinary business) of \$6,454,000, about 220 thousand less than its English namesake, but its expenses of management amounted to \$1,632,000, much more than four times as much.

Again looking over our list of companies, we find that of the six companies that an expense ratio over 24 per cent and less than 30 per cent, the four Canadian companies operating in Great Britain were amongst them. And of these, like Abou Ben Adhem, the Sun Life of Canada led all the rest. It might interest our critic to learn that only two companies in the list exceeded the expense ratio of the Sun Life; and almost immediately following were the other three Canadian Companies. We might as well say here that the Canadian Companies, when it comes to expenses, by and large can show a pair of clean heels not only to British companies, but to most of the large U.S. companies as well. But we are not through yet; we are going to make another comparison or two.

#### How About The Co-op. Insurance Company?

For the benefit of our readers we might say that away back in 1867 a Co-operative Insurance Society was started in England. Up to 1912 this was not connected with the regular Co-operative Movement, but in that year was practically taken over by the C.W.S. and the S.C.W.S.

It should interest us to know how its expense ratio compares with the ratios of our Canadian Companies. At the risk of tiring you, we will give another table and then finish for tonight. Looking over the little crimson manual, we find taking ten smallish Canadian companies, that their premium income for



one year nearly equals that of the Co-operative Insurance Society. We find also, totalling the expenses of management of these companies, that they amount to over three times as much as the Co-operative. Study the two tables:

Canadian Co's.	Premium	Expenses
Capital.....	\$ 549,039	\$ 222,467
Commercial.....	305,987	114,697
Empire.....	525,095	275,945
Maritime.....	250,423	99,189
National.....	1,741,333	661,132
Mutual Relief....	582,224	224,005
Saskatchewan....	324,938	174,585
La Sauvalle.....	876,278	283,279
Sovereign.....	853,845	295,530
Western.....	227,760	106,090
Totals.....	\$6,236,922	\$2,456,919

a creation of credit by the American bankers.

9. Therefore, the drastic "economies" now inflicted upon us, which are supported both by Government and opposition, mean that our standard of living

The Co-operative	Premium	Expenses of Management
Co-operative Insurance Society...	\$6,248,620	\$ 733,587
	\$6,248,620	\$ 733,587

We THINK we have answered our critic, but if there is any doubt in the minds of any of our readers, why, do not hesitate to let us know, for after all, we may be wrong.

(To be continued)

### Balance the Budget!

During the recent general election campaign in Great Britain the following was issued by *The New Age*, organ of the Social Credit movement, whose views on the financial problem differ from those of both the Government and the official opposition. We print it as a document which may prove of interest to our readers. The case for Social Credit is set forth in a number of books which are obtainable from the U.F.A. Central Office.

The *New Age* pamphlet read:

1. We are told that it is essential to "balance the Budget."

2. This means that the Government must obtain by taxation and from other sources an amount at least equal to its expenditure.

3. By far the largest item of national expenditure is the interest on the "internal debt," i.e., the various War Loans. At present this interest amounts to about £350 millions a year.

4. This debt was largely incurred during the war of 1914-18.

5. The Government borrowed the money to carry on this war from two sources:

(a) Private individuals.

(b) The banks.

6. These two classes of loans were, however, quite different in origin. Private individuals gave up the use of their savings when they subscribed to War Loan, and therefore have a right to repayment. The banks, on the other hand, created the money to buy the war loan out of nothing, by the simple process of writing the necessary figures in their ledgers. Consequently, they gave up nothing and have no real claim to the principal, let alone interest on their "loans."

7. The "credit" (i.e., cheque money) which the banks created for this purpose was not theirs, but the taxpayer's, since it was created against the security of Britain as a going concern. So now the taxpayer is paying interest through the Government to the banks for creating his own credit! At present the banks hold probably 75 per cent of all War Loan.

8. We are being taxed, also, to pay for the "external debt," incurred during the war by borrowing from the United States, which in a similar way was largely

must be cut down, in order to pay interest on money originally created by the banks.

10. Whilst our soldiers were winning the war in the trenches, our bankers were "gaining the war" at 5 per cent, and were busy entangling us and our children in a network of debt, by means of which they not only made a vast profit but laid their plans for controlling the lives of all of us for generations to come.

11. This whole situation is caused by a fatal defect in the money system, which allows the banks to create credit out of nothing and treat it as Debt. The remedy for this is Social Credit.

If you want to check the truth of the above statements read the Cunliffe Report (The First Interim Report on Currency and Foreign Exchanges 1918), page 4, footnote 2—H.M.'s Stationery Office, price 6d

If you want to prevent the bankers obtaining absolute control over this country, read *The New Age*, price 7d. weekly, and other Social Credit literature published at 70 High Holborn, London, W.C.1.

If you want to do something, insist on your Parliamentary candidate and other public men taking steps to right this great wrong.

### INTERNATIONAL BARTER.

(The Canadian Forum.)

If any proof were needed that international trade is gravely hampered by the complexity of international finance, it has come with recent deals between various nations, in which the usual chaotic methods of exchange have been abandoned in favor of the simpler and more primitive method of barter. Russian wheat for Italian motor trucks; Norwegian fish for French wines; German coal for Italian fruits; these are a few examples of mass trading by direct method. The most striking instance is the exchange of American wheat for Brazilian coffee. When the most determinedly individualistic nation in the world takes such a plunge into collectivism, the pressure must indeed be irresistible. More than that, this first step is almost certain to lead to others, almost revolutionary in nature. It is easy enough for the Farm Board to say the coffee will be marketed through the ordinary channels of private enterprise; it may be more difficult to carry this into effect. When the full implications are apparent, it will undoubtedly be seen that mass barter involves the creation of a complete system of distribution in order to be fully effective. A marketing board which will control export sales and provide machinery for distributing the foreign produce taken in return, is an almost inevitable corollary. Stark necessity has given a remarkable impetus to the collectivist state. Incidentally, it may be pertinent to ask whether there are no products for which Canadian wheat could be profitably exchanged. One bends an anxious ear without detecting the faintest rumble to indicate that Mr. Bennett is engaged in his famous blasting of a way into world markets. It is more than time that he began operations.

We have a bankers' government, carrying out a bankers' policy to meet a bankers' crisis caused by bankers' mismanagement.—Lord Morley.

## Alienation of Lands by Alberta Government Is Deplored

Land Ownership Committee of U.F.A. in Report to Convention Re-affirms Stand for Leasehold System

The following report was presented to the Annual Convention of the U.F.A. and adopted by the Convention:

Your Committee have studied the various forms of land ownership, particularly those in operation in Australia and New Zealand, where the use-lease-plan has been in operation for years, with apparent success; and have examined the report of the Royal Commission on Immigration. This committee investigated the land settlement question in Saskatchewan and reported in 1929.

We beg to report:

1. We sincerely regret the land policy adopted by the Provincial Legislature of 1931, which has resulted in the alienation of a further half-million acres since its inception in July last.

2. We reaffirm the policy as set out by the 1931 Convention, viz., all lands now in the possession of the Provincial Government or municipalities, or any land that may come under their control, be settled on long term lease on a yearly rental basis, lessee to have prior rights to renewal of lease. All improvements to

remain the property of the lessee.

3. That a revaluation of all land coming under the use-lease-plan be made every ten years on the basis of the productive possibilities of said land.

#### Benefits

1. Security of tenure.

2. Tenant would get immediate benefits from his labor, as no capital outlay is required to pay for his land.

3. Above plan would quickly resettle any lands being recovered through tax recovery or other causes, providing such lands were suitable for resettlement.

4. Would insure a steady revenue to municipalities and Government from any lands coming under their control.

5. Ownership and control of the lands would remain in the hands of the people.

6. Retain to the people the socially created values which they have developed.

All of which is respectfully submitted,  
U.F.A. Land Ownership Committee,  
1931,

D. MacLACHLAN,  
H. G. YOUNG,  
W. R. PYE.



# Report on *The U.F.A.* Presented to Annual Convention

## Past Year Reviewed and Need for Newspaper Service Emphasized

*The following report was submitted to the Convention by the U. F. A. Central Board, and adopted by the Convention:*

As a comparison of the financial statements of the past two years will show, there was a heavy reduction, amounting to \$9,518, in the cost of production of the official organ of the Association, in the year ending November 31st, 1931. Expenditures in all important items were substantially curtailed, the item of salaries being reduced by more than \$1,000, while the cost per page of paper and printing was also considerably lower than in the preceding year. The cost of the Toronto office was reduced by \$716.77. The only possibility of saving on a very large scale, however, was to be found in the drastic reduction of the number of pages printed. Here a heavy decrease took place, totalling twenty-five per cent, the number of pages printed in the financial year of 1930 being 840, while in 1931 the total was 624. This, unfortunately, meant a lessening of the service which the paper could give to its readers, at least insofar as volume of reading matter was concerned, but as the item for paper and printing required to issue nearly 50,000 copies twice a month is actually greater than all other items combined, there was no alternative. The total cost of production of the paper was \$47,508 last year, as compared with \$67,026 in the preceding year. These totals include the commissions of \$1.50 per member paid by the paper to the Association, out of the \$2.00 received, the actual amount received by the paper on balance being 50 cents. Apart from commissions paid to the Association the cost of production in the last financial year was \$39,028, and of this total \$22,132 was expended for printing and paper.

One of the factors in the reduction of the revenues of the paper in 1931 was the fact that a very large number of requisitions on the Wheat Pool had not been collectable. The commissions paid to the paper by the Association were on the basis of cash memberships only.

In common with all other periodicals covering a similar field, *The U.F.A.* suffered a reduction of advertising revenue during the year, this reduction being approximately 31.5 per cent, and occurring chiefly in the latter part of the year, when most of the expenditure had already been incurred. It is gratifying to note, however, that in comparison with other papers, *The U.F.A.* did not suffer unduly, and its lower revenue was a reflection of the general decline in business throughout the country.

While the paper was confronted with the necessity of curtailment at a time when the space requirements, always quite inadequate, were steadily increasing, it was found possible to introduce certain innovations, such as the publication at fairly frequent intervals of cartoons dealing with important questions of the day. The problem presented by each issue was not to discover available reading matter for publication, but to find space for the discussion of even a fraction of the urgent matters which required to be dealt with. The Wheat Pool section of the paper was served by 3,925 inches of space; the U.F.W.A. and Junior Branch coming second with 2,080

inches, while 1,271 inches were devoted to news of U.F.A. Locals and similar matter, and 1,061 inches were devoted to the reporting of the Annual Convention; 582 inches to the U.F.A. Consumers' Co-operative enterprises; 518 inches to the Live Stock Pool, which gives some financial support to the paper; 109 inches to the U.F.A. Veterans' Section, 922 inches to Federal affairs, 674 inches to Provincial affairs, and 461 inches to important articles dealing with the financial crisis, the gold standard, social credit, etc. Dairy Pool matters were also given publicity of some length. Premier Brownlee contributed a number of articles dealing with governmental affairs and kindred matters, and the Federal Members also made valuable contributions to the pages of the paper. To international affairs 79 inches of space were devoted.

### Need of Newspaper Service

It is unfortunate that at a time when the publicity requirements of our movement are increasing, the curtailment of the paper was found necessary. To your Board it is especially regrettable that when our industry is more hard pressed and nearer to disaster than in any previous period in the history of our Province, when the need to place at the disposal of our farm people reliable information upon social, economic and financial problems in their Provincial, national and international aspects was never greater; and when our people have become more acutely conscious than ever before of the necessity for fundamental social reconstruction, this curtailment had to take place. This is the more unfortunate because the general press—whose fortunes have been built up for the most part from the wealth won from the soil by Alberta farm people—though it is at times willing to pay tribute to the services rendered to the Province by our movement, is most inclined to oppose us when public issues closely concerning the welfare of agriculture are to be decided at the polls. At such times we have learned to expect almost universal, and at times, very bitter opposition, though some of the important papers published in the smaller urban centres form exceptions to the rule. During the past few weeks one of the Alberta dailies has launched an amazing campaign of detraction of the farm people of the Province as a class, and of the efforts they are making to cope with unprecedented distress and poverty. Attacks of this character upon the whole rural population are happily rare. They are made possible, as noted, by the revenues, which, directly or indirectly, the producers of primary products, upon whose labors the economic structure of the Province is based, have contributed to the building up of the newspapers which oppose them. In some other quarters there is displayed a not unfriendly attitude, but it is never possible to predict the moment when, in time of crisis, friendliness will change to opposition.

The need to defend the principles of our movement, to furnish our membership with information upon the trend of events in a rapidly changing world in which agriculture is deeply affected by

the broad movement of international forces, and to mobilize opinion in support of the great social objectives which we have set ourselves to achieve, is abundantly apparent. It is the opinion of your Board that the need for publicity is greater, not less, in times of depression than in times commonly described as "prosperous." Our people today are thinking deeply upon vital issues, and realizing the necessity of fundamental change if the masses of the people everywhere, including those engaged in our own industry, are to be saved from irreparable disaster. They look to an independent press for help and leadership in the conquest of the fields of new social knowledge; but they are for the most part unable to make the necessary outlay of money to subscribe for the expensive periodicals of independent outlook dealing with public affairs on this continent and elsewhere. Today, with rare exceptions, the only press which can retain its independence of the entrenched interests which resist change, is the press which is owned and controlled by organizations of the masses of the people such as ours.

### Important Services Rendered

The far-reaching influence of our Association, its growing power, have been demonstrated during the past year in the development of two important movements—the movement towards Consumers' Co-operation and the movement towards Social Credit. The one is concerned with the things which the farm people can do for themselves in their own local communities. The other is a matter of national policy upon which they can exert a determining influence, when they are organized in sufficient numbers, through their elected representatives. In both of these fields the official organ has been in a position to render and has rendered valuable services, in spite of the curtailment of space which has occurred. But for the publicity which it has been possible to give through the paper from issue to issue and by radio broadcast, to the policies worked out by the U.F.A. Co-operative Committee and by Constituency and District Co-operatives and Locals, the development of the Province-wide movement towards consumers' co-operation among farm people would at the best have been slow and difficult. The possibilities of success would have been meagre. Through the paper, the opportunities for social reconstruction initiated in local co-operative effort have been made known to nearly 50,000 Alberta farm people who receive *The U.F.A.* twice a month. If today the majority of the people of rural Alberta are convinced co-operators, as we believe they are, and desirous of pressing forward with all speed towards the realization of the Co-operative Commonwealth, *The U.F.A.* periodical has been an important factor in creating this solidarity of opinion. It has been for the officers of our Association and our representatives in Parliaments, a forum in which they have been able to address a larger circle of Alberta farmer readers than can be reached in any other manner. False conceptions of economy are being presented to the world by those who control



its purse strings. *The U.F.A.* has been able to emphasize the truth recently stated by H. N. Brailsford: "It is a failure of consumption which is ruining us all, and to devote all our energies to devising ways and means of reducing consumption still further would be suicidal."

#### Suppression of Unorthodox Opinion

The suppression of new knowledge in the field of economics can be carried out today in many subtle ways. A few weeks ago, it was reported by the correspondent of the London *Daily Herald* that in Great Britain the Bank of England has protested against a proposal for three professors of political economy with unorthodox views to give a broadcast to the world on the subject in which they are expert, because such views were unacceptable in the strongholds of international finance. In the press the means available to limit discussion on vital issues can be of real service to the masses. Any paper which, ostensibly the organ of a popular movement, accepted dictation in matters of policy directly or indirectly in any form from financial institutions, would be not only useless, but much more dangerous than a news-

paper frankly opposing popular interests. Only an organ of opinion owned and controlled by a great people's organization such as ours can be so freed.

#### British Co-operators' Forward Move

That times of stress and difficulty are the times when a movement which hopes for survival should put forth its most persistent and determined effort in the field of education has been recognized by British Co-operators, who on the morrow of a severe defeat in the political field, sustained during the last general election, are increasing their publicity and sending out the message of co-operation to an expanding circle of readers. That this policy is well warranted is borne out by the rapid growth which is taking place in the British movement. A similar policy is being pursued by British Labor—a movement whose basic philosophy has much in common with our own. In spite of depleted resources, the British Labor movement has launched a new campaign to win the masses of the people to its cause. A few weeks ago one of the most influential organs of British Labor announced a program of expansion and the engaging of the services of many distinguished writers who will henceforward contribute to its columns.

In Alberta we cannot hope, perhaps,

in the immediate future, for any expansion in our publicity comparable to that which is being undertaken by British Co-operators and by British Labor. But in the opinion of your Board it is highly desirable that the volume of our publicity be maintained at a level not lower than that of the past year, and we believe that the most determined effort should be made to increase the service given through the paper to the greatest extent within our power.

In conclusion your Board would place on record its appreciation of the services of the editor of *The U.F.A.*, Mr. W. Norman Smith, whose diligent study of social and economic problems, particularly those affecting agriculture, and his effective expression of the same through the columns of the paper has brought our organ of publicity to a place of high esteem among our members and in circles of intelligent readers in many parts of Canada and beyond.

ROBERT GARDINER,  
NORMAN F. PRIESTLEY,  
J. K. SUTHERLAND,  
H. B. MacLEOD  
GEORGE E. CHURCH,  
AMY H. WARR.

Committee in Charge

## Report of U.F.A. Co-operative Committee Deals with Activities of Past Season

Survey Made of Progress of U. F. A. Consumers' Co-operatives—Report Adopted by Annual Convention of Association

Your Committee wishes at the outset to review briefly the steps taken during the year. Following the meeting of the Board at the close of the Convention last year and pursuant to your action at that time, a recommendation was received by the Executive from the Alberta Co-operative Council, which body had been delegated by the Board at their last meeting the task of investigating the possibilities of the development of co-operation in Alberta. The executive adopted that recommendation and submitted the same to the Board for endorsement or rejection. The Board endorsed the recommendation. Your Committee being delegated the task of promoting co-operation on behalf of the Board, proceeded forthwith to organize upon the plan adopted.

It was early recognized by the Committee that perhaps the most important commodity available for distribution by co-operative methods was binder twine. It was also seen that there was little, if any, probability of organization of Constituency or District Associations along the lines of the Coronation Association being completed in time to deal in binder twine for the current crop season. Your Committee, therefore, believing that co-operative action by the Locals would encourage them to form such Constituency or District Associations, and feeling assured that much money could be saved for the members of the U.F.A. in such Locals as would undertake the business, decided to offer the facilities of the Central Office to all Locals, and accordingly entered into negotiations with the Holland Twine Company's agent, who had approached the Executive immediately after the Convention. Your Committee concluded arrangements with

that company for the distribution of twine through Co-operative Associations and U.F.A. Locals.

While it is the conviction of your Committee that with respect to the principal bulk commodities it is best to handle one brand only, a situation arose with regard to binder twine which caused them to depart from this principle, and we associated ourselves with the Alberta Co-operative Wholesale in the co-operative distribution of Brantford twine. The business in binder twine has constituted the most important feature of the work of the Committee during the year.

Early in June the Committee was approached by the agent in Alberta for Red Head Petroleum Products, and offered connections for the distribution of lubricating and fuel oils and other commodities. This offer was accepted and business arrangements concluded about the middle of July, after much investigation and discussion.

With these two principal commodities as a basis of operations your Committee proceeded to further co-operative organization. During the succeeding months six Provincial Constituencies have organized under the Coronation Plan. Your Committee wishes to strongly emphasize the necessity for such organization. In our opinion, it is indispensable to success.

#### Much Done Through Locals

Much has been done through the individual Locals. Many of them have had experience in this field for many years and have saved their members much money and strengthened themselves thereby. Such Locals have in some instances bought many thousands of dollars' worth of commodities this year through the facilities given by the

Central Office. While this is in itself good, it falls far short of the objectives in view. Only a few bulk commodities lend themselves to distribution in this manner, the most outstanding being twine and coal. Wider organization is imperative. The greater the mass of pooled purchasing the greater the power to effect improvement in the economic conditions of our farm people.

Another aspect of the question is that to cope with business by mail and wire the building of a much larger organization than we have at present will be necessary. Then, too, there must be active contact with farmers and Locals in any given area. This can only be supplied by organization of the district or constituency type.

#### Conference on Co-operative Accounting

Early in October a conference was held in Edmonton with the managers of the Associations then formed. Unfortunately, not all were able to attend. For two days under the tuition of Mr. Wm. Robertson of the Co-operative Audit Bureau and an assistant, the managers, together with the members of your Committee, received instruction in co-operative accounting and discussed various aspects of the financial side of the work. If a uniform system of accounting is adopted, it will be possible in future years accurately to compute the volume of business done by the U.F.A. co-operative organizations and to have full knowledge of the savings effected to our farmer members by their co-operative efforts.

#### Business Done Through Central Office

Sales through the U.F.A. office began in the middle of July with the purchase of a drum of lubricating oil. Since that



time a very gratifying volume of business in twelve types of commodities has been done through Central Office. On this business commissions had been received prior to December 31st totalling \$9,100.08, of which \$4,686.06 had been paid in dividends, and \$1,258.76 expended in operations, leaving a surplus of \$3,155.26. The balance sheet as at December 31st, 1931, was as follows:

**ASSETS:**

Cash on hand and at bank...\$1,275.39  
Accounts receivable..... 3,769.53

Total.....\$4,974.92

**LIABILITIES:**

Accounts payable.....\$1,819.66  
Balance..... 3,155.26

Total.....\$4,974.92

The value of the work of the Central Office in terms of revenue to the Association or in money passing through the books of Central Office, cannot be set forth adequately from the books of the accounting department. Such figures must be taken in conjunction with those

of the Associations and Locals served.

Your Committee believes that it is not too much to say that new hope in the possibilities of organization has been aroused in the minds of large numbers of our U.F.A. workers and members. There can be no denying the fact that price levels in many commodities necessary to farm life and operations have been lowered and hundreds of thousands of dollars saved to the farmers of Alberta thereby. In addition the U.F.A. Local has again become a centre of community interest. Our members have been given something to do. If the co-operative spirit, the loyalty, the intelligence, the energy and business sense of those Locals which have successfully launched out into this new field of activity could be reproduced all over the Province, it would not be long before the farmer as consumer would be in a strong position to bargain with producers and distributors in other sections of industry. We are making advances even in these days of our poverty and distress towards the solution of our economic problem.

Your Committee notes with satis-

faction the stability of our co-operative marketing organizations, all of which arose out of the activities of the U.F.A. While they have suffered severe shocks in common with almost all industrial and commercial institutions they are still functioning, and will, we believe, be found strong enough to maintain their place in the co-operative structure of the future.

In conclusion, your Committee desires to point out that we do not believe that any or all of these co-operative organizations will provide a complete solution to the problem of agriculture. Of this we are convinced, however, that our organization, in promoting these activities, is laying foundations in community solidarity and is developing that technique of industrial and commercial co-operation which is essential if we are to make progress and achieve that co-operative state towards which many of us have so long striven.

H. B. MacLEOD,  
GEORGE E. CHURCH,  
NORMAN F. PRIESTLEY

## Consequences of World Domination by Financial Interests Now Apparent to All

Banking and Credit Committee of U.F.A. Delivers Report—Issue of Money Through Treasury Department Proposed to Meet Immediate Need

We are now suffering the dire results of world-wide deflation, which was predicted by your Committee and referred to in two previous reports, especially that of 1928-29. Comment on the present situation should not be necessary, as the terrible consequences of a world dominated by all-powerful financial corporations, whose sole incentives are interest and profit, should now be apparent to the most conservatively minded.

We submit that our assertion of previous years, that our present financial system is a debt-creating system, building up vast volumes of debts which can never be paid, has now been amply demonstrated.

**Work of Federal Members**

We thoroughly endorse the efforts of our Federal Members during the past ten years to have the control of finance taken out of the hands of private corporations and reaffirm our belief in the principle of national control and distribution of currency and credit on a scientific basis, for exchange purposes only, proper balance to be maintained between the amount of goods and services to be exchanged and the amount of currency and credit in circulation, and to this end we suggest that some national authority be set up on which organized labor and organized agriculture be adequately represented.

We would also suggest to the U.F.A. Board and Convention and our Federal Members at Ottawa, that they bring all possible pressure to bear on the Federal Government to have such a national authority set up, which shall have the additional responsibility of deflating agricultural debts to the same degree as the deflation in the price of farm products.

And further, that if Provincial legislation is necessary, we call on the Pro-

vincial Government to pass such legislation as may be required to allow such a commission to function, and we further ask our U.F.A. members of the Provincial Legislature to petition the Federal Government for such commission.

We submit that insofar as the real wealth producers of Canada are concerned, their interests would be best served, not by economizing and curtailing expenses as practised by governments and municipalities today, but rather that an adequate amount of money be put into circulation through the Treasury Department of the Dominion to pay for government services, public works, unemployment relief (where no employment could be found), wheat bonus, etc. In this way the public debt would not be increased and money which is so badly needed would circulate freely. This will, of course, be criticized by "orthodox" financiers on the ground that it would further depreciate the Canadian dollar. We submit that the fall in the exchange value of the Canadian dollar is not a serious problem as far as the farmers and workers of Canada are concerned. On the contrary it has already resulted in increased demand for Canadian wheat and other exportable products.

**International Aspects**

We consider this report would be incomplete without some reference to the international aspect and how international finance affects us. We believe that a drastic reduction in German reparations payments and the cancellation of international war debts is necessary before there can be any improvement in our economic position, insofar as world economic conditions affect us.

The idea of cancellation of war debts is looked upon more favorably as time goes

on, and in our opinion, the financial interests would be willing to grant some concessions along this line, except for the fear that once the need for cancellation of any debts was admitted, there would be further demand for at least the partial cancellation of all debts, and we believe something of this kind will have to be done in the near future.

Nothing herein contained is set forth as a final solution of the financial problem. We consider that the present financial system has broken down, inasmuch as it has utterly failed to distribute goods and services. We have adequate production facilities and we have adequate transportation facilities. Our problem now is to establish a medium of exchange which will not permit a small proportion of the people to live in the lap of luxury while the great majority are constantly in fear of want.

We consider the financial problem is one of the most important problems before democracy today.

We wish to commend *The U.F.A.* paper for the prominence given this important matter and trust this policy may be continued.

In conclusion we would strongly urge that all branches of the Organization, and individual members, continue to study this subject. Central office has for sale a variety of books and pamphlets on the money question at reasonable prices, and in this connection we suggest works by the following authors: W. E. Brokaw, Major Douglas, Professor Soddy, Maynard Keynes, Irving Fisher, etc.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. K. SUTHERLAND,  
JOHN FOWLIE,  
W. SKINNER.



# United Farm Women of Alberta in Annual Convention

## Proceedings of an Eventful Week

By F. ALICE HUGHES

The eighteenth Annual Convention of the United Farm Women of Alberta was opened on Tuesday afternoon, January 21st, in First Presbyterian Church, Edmonton. Ninety-two delegates and approximately fifty visitors registered, and the fine weather throughout the Convention was conducive to all meetings being well attended. After the singing of "O Canada," Rev. Geo. M. Dix, pastor of the church, pronounced the invocation, and greetings were brought from the Provincial Government by Premier Brownlee, who dealt with present economic conditions and various problems that face the Province today. He said that as the revenues of the Province had fallen from 26 to 50 per cent, the Government would be glad of suggestions from the Convention on those things which might be most easily dropped for the present. He spoke of the enviable place held in the world today by the women of Canada, and the small percentage of unemployment in the Dominion as compared with that in other countries.

Mrs. Warr, the President, was elected chairman of the Convention. In her address, she traced the growth of the U.F.W.A. from its inception to the present time. In organizing Locals, addressing meetings, attending various conferences, and representing the U.F.W.A. at sessions of other organizations, the president reported a busy and fruitful year. The address met with hearty applause.

A full report of the Executive's work during the past year was given in an interesting manner by Mrs. Price, First

Vice-President. It dealt with the six executive meetings held during the year, the reading course, peace petitions, U.F.W.A. exhibit, health demonstration, cheese making demonstrations, Farm Women's Rest Week, appointment of a U.F.W.A. convener of political economy, Child Welfare Act, Personal Naturalization, Disarmament Conference, John Beattie case, counsel for poor persons, Bethany Lodge, etc. At the conclusion of the report, the delegates stood for a moment as a token of respect for the splendid work and services rendered by the late Mrs. McKinney and the late Mrs. Edwards.

### Directors' Reports

The reports of the Directors showed that although it has been a very difficult year for organization work, due to lack of funds, considerable progress has been made. In the membership contest, Mrs. Stong, Director for Peace River North, came first, and Mrs. Banner, Director for Acadia, second. They were later presented with ribbons.

The report of the Secretary, Miss Bateman, was listened to with keen attention. "While it has been the most difficult year ever experienced by our farm women, reports from the Locals have been most inspiring and reflected that in spite of the depression the year was being faced with courage and determination to carry on," she stated. "As a consequence not only has the previous year's membership been maintained, but we are able to show an increase." The report was greeted with applause.

Mrs. Hepburn, Convener of Young People's work, reported that steady growth and development are being made in that field, as the Junior membership also showed an increase. Francis Fry, Junior President, and Margaret Wight, Junior Vice-president, also spoke. A plea was made for a Junior Local in every district where there is a senior Local.

### WEDNESDAY'S SESSIONS

At the Wednesday morning session Mrs. Zipperer, Convener of Home Economics, gave her report. She emphasized the importance of vegetables, milk and milk products to growing children, and mentioned cheese making. A resolution asking the Minister of Agriculture for a special demonstration in cheese making was carried.

One of the most interesting addresses was that by Mrs. Price, Convener of Immigration. For the fiscal year 1930-31, migration to Canada totalled 88,223, a reduction of 46 per cent over the previous year. Through a campaign carried on by the Department of Colonization in co-operation with the Canadian railways, 12,682 single men from the cities had been placed in farm employment and 6,040 families have settled on the farms, a total of 42,882 Canadians back to the land again from Canadian cities. Mrs. Price closed with a plea for better understanding among the peoples of Canada.

Mrs. R. B. Gunn chose as the topic of her address, "At Home With Our New Canadians," and gave a most interesting word picture of "peoples and interests and

(Continued on page 24)

## UNITED FARM WOMEN OF ALBERTA



Back Row, Left to Right: Mrs. F. A. Dwelle (Macleod); Mrs. R. W. Lewis (Athabasca); Mrs. H. C. McDaniel (Medicine Hat); Mrs. Winnifred Ross (Wetaskiwin); Mrs. J. L. Zipperer (Camrose); Mrs. E. A. Postans (Battle River); Mrs. E. H. Ethridge (Peace River South); Mrs. J. C. Buckley (Bow River).

Front Row, Left to Right: Mrs. Mary Banner (Acadia); Mrs. W. D. MacNaughton (Vegreville); Mrs. R. Price (First Vice-President); Mrs. A. H. Warr (President); Mrs. P. C. Hepburn (Second Vice-President); Mrs. C. Stong (Peace River North); Mrs. B. C. Bellamy (Red Deer). Mrs. J. Hodgson (E. and W. Calgary), Mrs. S. J. Bentley (E. and W. Edmonton) and Mrs. Marie Malloy (Lethbridge) were not present.



# Problems of Most Difficult Year in Association's History Reviewed by U.F.W.A. President

Mrs. Warr, in Address to Annual Convention of the U. F. A., Discusses Economic Situation and Activities of Women's Section

It is my privilege to bring to you, again, sincere greetings from the Women's Section, and an earnest wish that out of the deliberations and discussions of this Convention may be evolved policies that will serve to lead humanity out of the labyrinth of economic difficulty from which it is at present struggling to emerge.

At no time in the history of our organization has it passed through such a difficult year as that which we have just completed. Since 1929 the prices of farm produce have fallen steadily, until, during the past year, wheat reached the lowest price level in over a century of time. Other farm commodities followed suit, selling at prices far below the cost of production. As a result agriculture is today facing an accumulation of debts, interest charges and arrears of taxes that will call for the most intelligent statesmanship to liquidate. Nor is hardship evident in the agrarian field alone. Business is stagnant, unemployment is increasing every day, while on every side may be seen the anomaly of poverty and want in the midst of plenty. This is true not only of Alberta and Canada, but of practically every country in the world today.

Difficult as conditions are, however, there is a silver lining shining through the gloom. People, who in former deflation periods, unthinkingly accepted whatever explanation was given them as the cause of their suffering, are today really studying the present crisis, trying, if possible, to discover its fundamental cause and so prevent its recurrence in the future.

## Causes of Recurrent Depression

What is the cause of these recurrent depressions? For they have been recurring with more or less regularity in the past, and the present one differs from the others only in the fact that it is more acute and more widespread. Real students of economics will agree, for the most part, with the conclusions stated in an article written for the Alberta Labor Annual last September, by Alderman Gibbs, M.L.A., which reads as follows: "We shall find the root of our present trouble in the private ownership of our natural resources and industrial machine, in the private ownership of the mechanism of credit and circulating currency, making it possible for a vast tribute to be exacted from all those outside the ring of ownership; a tribute so great in proportion to the total wealth produced as to leave an altogether insufficient purchasing power in the hands of the masses; a tribute so great that the beneficiaries of it, be they ever so spendthrift, can not possibly utilize it all in the absorption of consumable goods, and have to reinvest it in equipment for still further production or leave it piled up as a mortgage against the future, to such an extent that the gulf between effective demand and production grows wider and wider until stagnation sets in to redress the balance."

## Profit or Service

Briefly put, the basic cause of these recurring depressions is that profit in-

stead of service is the keynote of our social system.

An illustration of the irresponsible manipulation of natural resources for personal profit was shown by the evidence brought out in the investigation of charges made in the Dominion House against the Beauharnois Power Corporation by our esteemed U.F.A. President, Mr. Gardiner. Those charges were completely substantiated by the evidence, which clearly showed that millions of dollars were made by the promoters and two members of the Senate before a spade of earth was turned, that huge contributions had been given by the president of the company to both political parties in exchange for favors given, or expected, and gross infraction had occurred of the rights granted the company by Order in Council.

Despite all quibbling by the formidable array of company lawyers, that the plans were being "Substantially" complied with, it was clearly established that they had been violently altered in construction and that it was utterly illegal for the company to begin work before all plans had been officially approved.

The Committee appointed by the House in submitting their report recommended among other things that the Parliament of Canada take such action as may be within its power and without prejudicing the rights of the Province of Quebec, to procure the development of this project in such a manner as will best serve the interests of the people of Canada.

Asked what he thought the Committee meant by "what would best serve the people of Canada," Mr. Gardiner replied, "public ownership and operation." Premier Bennett, however, declared in

favor of private development under new management and Dominion control of navigation, granting the Beauharnois Company "in so far as it may be within competence of Parliament," the right to divert up to 53,072 cubic feet per second of water of the flow of the St. Lawrence.

This decision has not met with popular approval. In an editorial of the Manitoba *Free Press* on September 11th, 1931, written by Mr. John W. Daffoe, appeared the following criticism of this decision: "The public interest, which was fraudulently invoked in the first place to give this enterprise life, is apparently to receive no consideration whatever."

It was to be the means of breaking the power of the Quebec Power Trust. Before a single spadeful of earth was removed, it became the ally of the Trust; and from all present indications it is to become an integral part of the monopoly it was supposed to fight. . . . The revelations before the Special Committee and the resulting attitude of public opinion put it in the power of Mr. Bennett to recapture for the public, rights that were lost to it, by the design or inadvertence of the King Government. . . . The public are not likely to accept an outcome that confirms and strengthens all the features of the Beauharnois arrangement which are inimical to its interests."

## Voiced Views of Canadian Womanhood

Miss Agnes Macphail, lone woman member of Parliament, unhesitatingly voiced the opinion of Canadian womanhood when she declared, "If a hungry person takes a loaf of bread or a sack of potatoes, he is sent to jail. Why should not people who have taken millions which did not belong to them also be sent to jail? . . . As a former teacher, and as a woman, I ask, what are we going to teach the children of Canada? What is the use of saying to boys and girls, 'We must have high ideals, we must be honest and hard working, we must look up to our public men and have confidence in them,' if such men are to be allowed to remain in the Senate of Canada and be permitted to retain the lawless gains they have accumulated?"

The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, in session at Vancouver, on September 25th, passed the following resolution without a dissenting vote: "That the convention urge that a Royal Commission be appointed to make the fullest inquiry into the whole project, and that all persons who have illegally benefited, directly or indirectly, therefrom, be prosecuted. That in the opinion of the convention the project should be developed as a public ownership undertaking."

There is but one way in which the development of the Beauharnois enterprise can best serve the people of Canada. It lies in the extension of public ownership and this is what all public spirited people desire.

## Work of Women's Section

Following such continued low prices in all farm commodities, we expected to have to report a decrease in membership.



Mrs. A. H. WARR



We are pleased to say, however, that our records show an increase of eighty members over that of 1930. We consider this a worthwhile achievement in view of the present conditions in rural Alberta. There is reason, also, to be encouraged by the evidence of a most alert interest in the movement, for local and public meetings, constituency conventions and women's conferences have been especially well attended during the year. These conferences were held in practically every constituency, and served to stimulate interest and enthusiasm to a marked degree. Handicraft Exhibits, Quilt Contests, Talks on the Gold Standard, Legislative Acts, Development of Natural Resources, Citizenship, Education, Health, Young People's Work, Relief, Cheese Making and Peace, formed part of the programme, while by no means the least contribution to the success of these conferences was the view of the tables laden with delicious food provided by the members of the U.F.A. Locals acting as hostesses. This part of the programme proved most attractive to the gentlemen fortunate enough to be in attendance either as chsuffeurs or speakers and guests. Indeed, these conferences are becoming quite as popular in some constituencies with the men as the women and on one or two occasions all three branches of the organization were in attendance. Delightful music, stimulating mental food and appetizing refreshments form an attractive combination. One of the greatest appeals of our organization lies in the fact that it welcomes within its membership either as Juvenile Juniors, Juniors, U.F.W.A. or U.F.A., all members of the rural family.

The Women's Section wish to express their appreciation to the Western Nurseries of Brooks, Alberta, for the prizes which they so kindly contributed for the Planted Beauty Spot Contest, which was held during the year. This contest has aroused considerable enthusiasm for beautification of home surroundings, many lovely snapshots being sent in to Central Office. Those chosen by the judges for slides will be shown on Wednesday afternoon in the women's convention following the report of the Convenor on Horticulture and Beautification, Mrs. C. Stong. It is hoped to hold a Rock Garden and Pool Contest in the coming year as many requests have been received from our Locals for such a contest.

Our women continued to stress education, health and child welfare, three fundamental assets of a nation. If we would be assured of possessing a sturdy, intelligent population, filled with the highest ideals of citizenship, we must provide adequate facilities for the intellectual, moral and physical development of our youth; imbuing within them those qualities of character that denote courage, honesty and justice to others. In this way, and this way only, can we be assured of a future citizenry who will carry out that old biblical injunction: "Love thy neighbor as thyself," upon which the hope of future civilization rests.

Eagerly grasping that which will serve to promote this ideal, our Locals have made every effort to improve the present educational and health facilities in their several communities, have encouraged the formation of Junior U.F.A. Locals, whose motto is "Equity," and whose watchword is "Service," and which are training schools in leadership and the highest ideals of citizenship; and in co-operation with the Provincial Depart-



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**Course starts 1:30 p.m., Thursday, February 11th**

Lectures and Discussions on timely Farm Topics by officials of  
Department of Agriculture and Alberta University.

**HON. GEORGE HOADLEY,**  
*Minister of Agriculture*

**H. A. CRAIG,**  
*Deputy Minister.*



ment of Health, have held baby clinics, home nursing classes, adolescent hygiene lectures, encouraged young, inexperienced mothers to register for prenatal letters, utilized wherever possible the services of the Provincial Travelling Clinic and the free illustrated health lectures of the field service-man of the Provincial Department of Health, Mr. F. T. Cook.

#### Relief by U. F. W. A. Locals

Much time and effort have been devoted by our Locals to the giving of relief during the past year, money, food, bedding or clothing being donated to the Bethany Lodge (a home for unemployed and homeless girls and women) in Edmonton, to the Salvation Army, Sunshine, the Red Cross, and to destitute families in immediate vicinities.

As destitution is a contributory factor to the increase in delinquency and crime, our Locals have been much concerned over the severe penalties handed out to juvenile offenders during the year, namely, the application of the lash on the occasion of a first offence against the law. As a consequence the whole matter of crime and punishment is receiving their keenest study at the present time. The economic depression is the primary cause of the prevailing destitution and a more active interest is being taken in economics. This is evidenced by a request sent in from a U.F.W.A. conference in North Peace River for Political Economy to be included in our lines of study for the coming year.

We wish to voice our appreciation to the Provincial Government for again holding Farm Women's Rest Week at the Olds and Vermilion Schools of Agriculture. It has come to mean much in the lives of the over-taxed rural mother whose income has not been large enough to provide her with a holiday or rest from her home duties.

To attend this Rest Week once is to desire to make it the place of an annual holiday. With work and recreation so splendidly intermingled, it is sure to become as popular with our farm women as the Junior Conference held at the University of Alberta is to farm young people. And no higher praise could be paid than this! I overheard one woman exclaim, "How I wish our husbands could have a similar short course at this school. I, for one, would willingly do the chores on the farm if John could have an opportunity to enjoy a week here. The cost is so little and one learns so much and in such an easy attractive way."

#### Education for Peace

Believing that "Education is a better safeguard of liberty than a standing army," our Locals have continued to stress education for Peace, by holding peace programmes on Good-Will Day in co-operation with church, Sunday school, Junior U.F.A. clubs and schools. In anticipation of the Disarmament Conference to be held in February, they have circulated a petition calling for the immediate reduction of armaments, and in every way have endeavored to further World Peace.

It has been said that: "Civilization has to end war or war will end civilization." With the development of science, millions of people can be exterminated in a few moments. General Groves is responsible for the statement that one hundred modern aeroplanes in ten minutes can lay a cloud of poison gas from fifty to one hundred and fifty feet thick over an area of one hundred square miles.

How essential it is then to preserve world peace!

The last war cost \$400,000,000,000. and was supposed to be a war to end war and make the world safe for humanity. Yet, today, only a little over thirteen years later, the world is spending \$5,000,000,000 yearly on war preparedness and war costs. In Great Britain, United States and France, out of every dollar raised by taxation, over seventy cents goes to pay the costs of past and future wars.

#### Vested Interests in War

As to our own country, we quote from a bulletin written by our Convenor of Peace, Mrs. McNaughton: "Canada, one of the greatest peace loving nations in the world, will this year be taxed nearly \$70,000,000 to pay for war pensions, for disabled veterans, and for aid to the human debris of the Great War. Behind all this national competition of armaments and navies lies a vicious competition of armament and ship building companies, which seek to promote international prejudice, jealousy and ill will for the purpose of preserving a ready market for the death-dealing equipment they produce. This seems hard to believe, does it not? Yet, it is proven by the fact that Dr. William B. Shearer, self-confessed salesman of hate for the U.S. steel companies, received \$51,230 for his efforts to prevent the Naval Disarmament Conference at Geneva from reducing armaments, while during the last war Sir Basil Zaharoff, holding ownership in armament plants on both sides of the front, amassed for himself a fortune of hundreds of millions by selling the machinery of death to all comers."

Is it not time for public opinion to express disapproval of the manufacture of munitions and equipment of war by private companies for profit?

In my humble opinion, the first step toward disarmament is for nations to enact legislation calling for government control of munition factories and conscription of wealth on declaration of war. Had this been done by every nation which participated in the last war, had "private wealth been placed upon the same basis as human life and taken over by the state at the same valuation, war debts would have been liquidated long ago," and the world would not today be menaced with war propaganda. Remove individual profit from war, and you have gone a long way toward establishing world peace. In the words of the famous Chinese philosopher, Confucius, "To improve the Empire, improve the State; to improve the State, improve the individual; to improve the individual, improve the heart; to improve the heart, improve the soul." Thus we see that in the final analysis, the acts of the Empire or Nation reflect the aims of the individuals that comprise that Empire or Nation. If love of profit controls the actions of individuals, it will be equally the dominating force of governments; and on the other hand if service and brother love radiate from the soul of individuals, this force will in turn be reflected in their chosen representatives.

The U.F.A. has been teaching the principles of co-operation for more than two decades, working toward a Christian Democracy, in which sympathy, understanding and tolerance shall be the guiding force of individuals and nations. Let us keep this ideal ever before us, remembering always that no matter who we are or where we are, or in whatever humble capacity we serve our Creator,

we yet have a part to play in the great drama of life.

Stand off by yourself in your dreaming

And all of your dreams are vain,

No grandeur of soul or spirit

Can man by himself attain.

It is well we shall dwell as brothers—

As brothers then we must toil;

We must act with a common purpose

As we work in a common soil.

And he who would see accomplished

The dreams that he's proud to own,

Must strive for the goal with his fellows;

For no man can do it alone.

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#### U.F.W.A. IN ANNUAL CONVENTION

(Continued from page 21)

activities and impressions" from her day by day travels in the New Canadian settlements—Scandinavian, Ukrainian, German. She touched upon their great thirst for education, and their love for beautiful handicraft and homecraft. She closed her address with a quotation from "Our Canadian Mosaic"—"The cement without which we cannot hope to succeed in our task is good-will and friendliness born of mutual respect and confidence between all peoples within our borders. Let us, native and foreign born alike, . . . strive to execute with meticulous care the pattern as revealed to us by the Master Craftsman, so that our Canadian mosaic, like that of ancient times, may be practically indestructible, so that it too, may endure."

#### Mrs. Warr Re-elected

Mrs. Warr was re-elected president, and spoke briefly, expressing her thanks for this renewed mark of confidence.

J. S. Woodsworth, M.P., in a brief talk, touched on the standing of women in Russia. They were on absolute equality with men, even to doing manual labor, and this economic equality had led to changes in the family life.

The report of Mrs. Stong, Convenor of Beautification and Horticulture, followed. Mrs. Stong touched on the force of habits, and emphasized the importance of providing surroundings that will create in children a love for the beautiful and worth while things in life.

An illustrated address by H. L. Seymour, town planning commissioner, was much enjoyed. Some of the slides shown were those sent in for the Beauty Spot Contest, sponsored by the U.F.W.A. The winners of the contest were announced—Mrs. Weekes of Horse Hills Local winning first prize, and Mrs. Henderson of White Local winning second. The contest will be held again next year.

At 4:15 the meeting adjourned as the delegates and visitors were invited to tea at Government House. The visit was much enjoyed by all who attended.

In the evening, the delegates enjoyed a most interesting address by Dr. MacEachran, who emphasized the bad effect prisons have on many offenders. He said there are no psychiatrists in the jails and prisoners are discharged after their time is up whether cured or not. An understanding of human nature is essential. He did not believe that young offenders should be sent to jail.

#### THURSDAY'S SESSIONS

After community singing, Mrs. Ross, Convenor of Education, gave a most interesting report, stressing the need for more adequate supervision for rural and small village schools. All parents are teachers whether they will or no, she



said, and care should be taken that the child forms correct habits early in life. She emphasized the use that could be made of motion pictures and radio in the schools.

Mrs. E. Kehoe, of the Poultry Pool Board, gave an instructive talk on blood tests for poultry, and poultry diseases. By having these blood tests, reactors could be eliminated from the flocks.

Mrs. R. Price was unanimously re-elected First Vice-President and Mrs. P. C. Hepburn Second Vice-President of the U.F.W.A.

Mrs. Lewis, Convener of Co-operative Effort, spoke very comprehensively on the egg grading system, and touched upon the Northern Dairy Pool. During the three and one half years in which the Northern Dairy Pool has operated, the prevailing market price has always been paid for cream, and in addition to this a surplus of \$130,000 has been accumulated for the producers.

Mrs. Nelson Haynes, in a most interesting address, gave helpful suggestions for voice training and public speaking. She suggested several simple exercises to improve the voice. To encourage children in public speaking, they should be given subjects in which they are interested, and they should be taught to read and speak ideas, not words.

Mrs. David Bowman, curator of the Edmonton Museum of Art, spoke on Canadian Art, tracing the advances made. In the first Canadian exhibition there were six exhibitors; recently 122 artists had contributed to the Canadian exhibition. She said that today the Canadian Group of Seven represents the most outstanding movement in modern art.

"He who has health has hope; he who has hope has everything," quoted Mrs. Banner, Convener of Health, in her report. She touched on the health units and public health nurses, which mean so much to the rural communities. There are two full time units operating at the present time in Alberta, providing baby clinics, school health inspection, life extension clinics, and pre-natal work. In addition, we have the travelling child welfare clinic, the child welfare clinics, the public health lecturers, and the travelling clinic. "Altogether we spend six or seven times as much trying to cure sick people as we spend keeping them well, and we must admit this seems a short sighted program," said Mrs. Banner. She urged one and all to take part in the preventive health work.

Supplementary to Mrs. Banner's talk, Miss Kate Brighty, Superintendent of Public Health Nurses, spoke, expressing appreciation of the assistance of the U.F.W.A. in furthering health work. The Department of Health has many pamphlets that may be had on application, and she urged the delegates to make full use of this information.

Mrs. J. W. Field, only woman member of the Eugenics Board of Alberta, spoke in favor of the Sexual Sterilization Act of 1928. There was great need, she said, for study of this whole problem by the organization, for proper follow-up social work, and for this work to be extended into many homes of feeble minded people. In conclusion, she suggested the need for study of the marriage laws and the need for health certificates at the time of marriage.

Hon. Geo. Hoadley, addressing the convention, stated that the centres at Red Deer and High River are doing good work, and are at present making a house to house visitation chiefly re sanitation. The health units are at present just doing preventive work, but in all probability

(Continued on page 28)

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## ANNUAL CONVENTION

(Continued from page 7)

the paper, just hold on before you apply the thumb screws to the farmers of this Province."

"I consider it less important whether or not the Province defaults than whether or not our people are driven from their homes," Henry Young declared, while F. Muller remarked that the time had come not only for a reduction of debts, but for a cancellation of debts. T. Partridge said he would prefer bankruptcy to the Debt Adjustment Act if he had to account to the Bureau for every egg and every can of cream. He thought that to extend the act to provide that all the farmers who needed its protection could use it, would do more injury to the Government than the provision of a moratorium.

### C. East Expresses Views

While in sympathy with the idea behind the proposal, C. East pointed out that when a moratorium was in effect during war time, the financial system was putting millions of dollars into circulation. "If you pass this moratorium," he said, "you must be prepared to go back to a system of barter."

Donald Cameron, M.L.A., said that while it was argued effectively two years ago that the enactment of legislation of this kind would "spoil the credit of the Province," the argument did not apply today, "because we have no credit." He hoped the resolution would carry. It would "help many poor fellows on the farm who need help badly."

"Everyone speaking against this resolution runs away with the idea that we are all rogues," said C. Antonson. "Everyone who wishes to do so can still pay debts. It doesn't mean that we won't pay our little local bills."

The present Debt Adjustment Act was insufficient as now operated to "protect the homes of debt-ridden farmers," William Irvine, M.P., declared. He did not think the resolution should pass, however, until "we have gone very very carefully into the monetary reflex that would follow such a moratorium."

The discussion continued at length during the greater part of a session of the Convention, the resolution being finally defeated by five votes, as previously stated.

### Three Addresses of Week

Three chief addresses given during the week at evening sessions by J. S. Woodsworth, on Tuesday, Premier Brownlee, on Wednesday, and the veteran Past President of the United Farmers of Alberta, H. W. Wood, on Thursday evening, were all listened to with deepest interest and attention by large audiences of farmers and urban people.

Mr. Wood's address, and that of the Premier, will be dealt with at greater length in another issue. Mr. Wood made a detailed survey of the forces by which the evolution of human society is governed, and gave the Convention the benefit of the rich wisdom gained by long service to the farmers' movement, and of the philosophy which in such large measure has become incorporated into the thought of the farm people of Alberta, to be an inspiration to social action. He received a warm welcome from the delegates.

Premier Brownlee, faced by the most difficult financial situation which has had to be faced in the history of the Province, and by a multitude of grave problems of policy and administration, delivered an address which made a deep impression

on the delegates, and in two instances had the indirect effect of determining the course of action subsequently taken upon resolutions brought before the Convention.

### Policing the Province

One of these resolutions concerned the agreement with the Dominion Government for the policing of the Province by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and was in definite opposition to the proposal. It provoked a lively and very important debate, at the end of which the resolution was defeated by a large majority.

This very important debate on the policing of the Province which took place on a resolution from the Calgary U.F.A. Local, endorsed by the Central Board, will be discussed in our next issue. The resolution urged retention of the Provincial Police force.

Mr. Woodsworth gave a masterly description, largely based on personal observation, upon conditions in Europe.

### Freedom of Assembly

In view of the growing tendency in Canada to restriction of freedom of press and assembly, and of the rapid drift towards dictatorship in its more open forms, the following resolution, carried by unanimous standing vote of the Convention, is printed in full:

Resolved, That action taken by the Canadian House of Commons but blocked by the Senate in successive sessions, providing for the repeal of sections of the Criminal Code of Canada enacted in 1919, which abrogated historic rights of free speech and assembly, be endorsed by this convention; and further be it

Resolved, That the present Parliament of Canada be urged to repeal the sections of the code referred to, and reenact the following section, which the Parliament of 1919 deleted from the code:

No one shall be deemed to have a seditious intention only because he intends in good faith—

(a) to show that His Majesty has been misled or mistaken in his measures; or

(b) to point out errors or defects in the Government or constitution of the United Kingdom or of any part of it, or of Canada, or of any province thereof, or in either House of Parliament of the United Kingdom, or of Canada, or in any legislation, or in the administration of justice; or to excite His Majesty's subjects to attempt to procure by lawful means the alteration of any matter in the state; or

(c) to point out, in order to their removal, matters which are producing or have a tendency to produce feelings of hatred and ill-will between different classes of His Majesty's subjects.

President Gardiner, who was invited to speak on this resolution by motion from the floor, gave a brief account of the encroachments upon liberty of discussion which have taken place since the war. He showed that the term "unlawful assembly" as used in the amendments of 1919, admits of very wide interpretation, and may readily be used by a tyrannous government to stifle almost every expression of dissent against government policy. He pointed out that the present restrictions are incompatible with genuine constitutional government. The repeal in 1919 of the old section quoted in the resolution, removed safeguards and rights enjoyed in Great Britain and other self-governing parts of the empire for generations; and he declared that strong expression of opinion

by the Convention would be of much assistance to U.F.A. and other members of Parliament who had fought and would continue to fight for the restoration of ancient liberties.

(To be continued)

### "Canada's Teapot Dome"

The history of the investigation into the Beauharnois power undertaking carried out at the last session of the Canadian Parliament as the result of action taken by President Gardiner, is the subject of a booklet entitled "Canada's Teapot Dome" recently issued by the National Popular Government League of the United States. The booklet describes in a very readable way the course taken by the investigation and the disclosures which resulted.

The League some years ago gave wide circulation to the facts brought out at the Senate investigation into power scandals in the United States, at a time when much of the evidence was ignored by daily newspapers. Similarly, the evidence brought out by U.F.A. members who made the Beauharnois inquiry possible is now being used by the League to build up opinion in support of public ownership in the republic. We have a number of copies of the new pamphlet available at cost of handling (25 cents) for those of our readers who wish to procure them. The author is Judson King, Director of the National Popular Government League.

### Short Course for Farmers in Calgary District (By Colin G. Groff)

For the first time in some years, a short course in agriculture for the farmers of the district immediately surrounding Calgary, will be held in the Board of Trade rooms, Calgary.

It will embrace lectures in a number of timely agricultural topics by officials of the Department of Agriculture and the University, and will be under the auspices of the Provincial Department of Agriculture, and the Calgary Board of Trade. It will begin at 1:30 on Thursday, February 11, and continue till the evening of Friday, February 12th.

For the program of addresses there has been selected a list of topics of peculiar interest to the Calgary district. The first afternoon's session will include an opening address by H. A. Craig, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, an address on fodder crops for the Calgary district, by Geo. DeLong, of the Lacombe Experimental farm, an address on grasses and cereals for pasture by E. L. Gray, field crops commissioner, one on diseases of cattle and hogs by Dr. Talbot, provincial veterinarian, one on dairy cattle feeding experiments at the University by Prof. Sackville, and one in the evening on poultry raising by the Provincial Poultry Commissioner, Geo. Cormie.

On Friday morning, February 12th, the first address will be on grain production and tillage methods in southern Alberta by Jas. Murray, principal, Olds School of Agriculture. S. G. Carlyle, Livestock Commissioner, will speak on the silo on the farm, and at the noon luncheon of the Board of Trade which will be connected with the short course Hon. George Hoadley, Minister of Agriculture, will speak. In the afternoon session Prof. Sackville will speak on the latest developments in weed control, Dr. Fairfield of the Lethbridge Experimental Farm, and C. S. Noble, of Nobleford, will wind up the program of the short course with addresses on soil drifting.



## What the Annual Convention Did

Unanimously re-elected Robert Gardiner, M.P., as President and Norman F. Priestley as Vice-President.

Expressed appreciation of Gardiner's fight re Beauharnois power scheme, and emphasized importance of securing development of project as publicly owned utility.

Gave cordial endorsement, by adoption of U.F.A. Co-operative Committee's report, to the plan of consumer co-operation now in operation under the direction of the Association.

Heard important addresses by H. W. Wood, Premier Brownlee and J. S. Woodsworth, M.P.

Defined "the Co-operative Commonwealth"—the goal of the U.F.A. movement, in clear terms.

Commended the courageous efforts of U.F.A. Members at Ottawa in bringing conditions in West to notice of Parliament.

Asked that steps be taken to secure a unified group of farmers in next Dominion election.

Asked Dominion Government to compensate all grain growers to extent of at least one dollar per acre seeded so that those who have received no bonus on wheat may be treated fairly.

By unanimous standing vote urged repeal of sections of Criminal Code adopted in 1919 which curtail freedom of speech and assembly, and re-enactment of old section of the code deleted at that time which safeguards such freedom.

Protested against reduction of income tax on large incomes and asked that larger portion of public revenue be raised by this tax.

Protested against any increase being made in tariff on fuel and lubricating oils.

Asked reduction of domestic freight rates on grain.

Urged immediate reduction of tariff, with view to elimination of "this barbaric economic superstition from the fiscal policy of our country" within five years.

Urged nationalization of monetary system, said system to advance credit on a cost basis; and commended work done in this regard by U.F.A. Federal Members.

Rejected by a very close vote after a statement by Premier Brownlee, (95 for, 99 against) a resolution calling for a moratorium.

Urged extension of scope of Debt Adjustment Act so that dispossession of

debtors will be impossible without recourse to the act; and further urged drastic reduction of debts and cancellation or drastic reduction of interest until cost of production meets prices of farm products.

Commended Alberta Government for support of co-operative enterprises, and condemned attacks upon the Government and on these enterprises by those who benefit from the competitive system.

Placed U.F.A. membership for 1932 on a cash basis and asked all members who in the past signed requisition forms to arrange with the Wheat Pool head office to have changes made so that dues can legally be paid from any money accruing to the member from the Pool.

Commended U.F.A. Central Office and Wheat Pool for maintaining *The U.F.A.* "at such a level of efficiency in these difficult times," and asked for further extension of its services.

Deplored the "disregard" in new Provincial Lands Act of resolution of last Convention in favor of public ownership of land and long term lease of land for use only, and called upon the Government to carry the principle into effect.

Reaffirmed stand of last Convention in favor of public ownership of radio broadcasting.

Reaffirmed previous stand in favor of power development under public ownership and control; asked that further development of Kananaskis project be prevented.

Urged reduction of telephone rates. Proposed steeply graduated income tax to provide any additional revenues required by Provincial Government.

Asked graduated scale of automobile license fees with a minimum of \$5, additional revenue to be raised by gasoline tax.

Adopted other important resolutions dealing with issues of Provincial and national policy.

### Co-operative Buying of Oils

(From a recent broadcast of the U.F.A. Co-operative Committee.)

Even the most regular U.F.A. Local will not meet many more times before spring. The Co-operative Committee would suggest therefore that every Local U.F.A. should take up at its next meeting the question of co-operative buying of

Red Head fuel and lubricating oils, cup grease, etc.

We had a letter at Central Office a few days ago from the secretary of a Local who estimated that the members of that Local would use thirty thousand gallons of tractor fuel and one thousand pounds of cup grease. They are laying plans to buy this together with their lubricating oil. Similar plans are being laid in many parts of the Province.

Without doubt the finest way to meet the problem involved is to organize in a district co-operative organization. By so doing, the pooling of orders would enable delivery to be made in tank car quantities and a large saving would be effected.

The Co-operative Committee is ready to give service but we cannot help your community unless you take the first steps.

### U.F.A. Veterans' Section

#### Veterans' Affairs at Convention

Dear Comrades:

No doubt many of you will be anxious to learn what action was taken at the Convention in regard to ex-soldier problems. Three resolutions were presented by the Veterans' Section, and all carried, I think unanimously.

The stand taken a year ago in regard to Soldier Settlers was reaffirmed, namely that (1) All soldier settler loans be non-interest bearing. (2) That all payments be made on the 1-3 crop share basis. (3) That security of tenure be guaranteed as long as the above condition is complied with.

An important resolution was passed re the Pensions Act, asking that appeal by the Board of Pensions Commissioners, against a favorable decision to an applicant for pension, be not allowed.

The third resolution dealt with the appointment of men to the Natural Resources Branch of the Provincial Government, and asked that preference be given to returned men, other qualifications being equal.

A luncheon was held at the Hudson's Bay dining room, at which over 40 returned men, and Federal and Provincial Members were present. Col. C. W. Robinson was elected chairman and a vote of thanks was passed for the work of our Federal members in supporting and introducing legislation helping the Veterans. Short addresses were given by Mr. McCauley, President of the U.F.C. Saskatchewan section; Mr. E. J. Garland, M.P.; Comrade Wheatley, of Hussar (U.F.A. Board); Mr. Smith, M.L.A.; Mr. Lucas, M.P.; Mr. McKeen, M.L.A.; Col. Jamieson of Edmonton; Mr. Wm. Irvine, M.P.; Mr. Rice Sheppard; Mr. Speakman, M.P.; Mr. Luckovitch, M.P. and Comrade Norman Smith, Editor of *The U.F.A.*

Several very interesting points were brought out regarding ex-soldier problems in these addresses, but the space of *The U.F.A.* is too limited to discuss them at the present time. Comrade Wheatley stated that as there is much evidence to show that the cost of administering the Soldiers Settlement Board is greater than the financial returns brought in to the Government, it would be a saving in money to the country to abolish the Board and turn over title to S. S. B. lands to the ex-soldiers occupying them.

All returned men are welcome at these gatherings, and it is hoped that as many as possible will attend the next luncheon in Calgary at the Convention of 1933.

N. V. FEARNEHOUGH,  
Secretary, Veterans' Section, U.F.A.

## Important Announcement

It is with great regret that we make the announcement to our members, the members of the Alberta Wheat Pool and other Co-operative organizations which the official organ of our movement serves, as well as to our other readers in Alberta and elsewhere, that commencing with the issue of March 1st, *The U.F.A.* will be published only once each month. This decision was reached by the U.F.A. Executive at their sitting on January 29th.

None knows better than we do the urgent need of the closest and most frequent contact with our members in these difficult times. In spite of many difficulties during the past two years, we have tried, through the official publication of our Association, to maintain, in co-operation with the Alberta Wheat Pool, the best educational and publicity service possible. Circumstances, however, are now such as to have led to the decision to publish monthly.

We must ask our readers to recognize that their poverty is our poverty, and to carry on with loyalty and courage until such times as more of the farmers of Alberta are again able and willing to support their organization and enable us to resume publication of semi-monthly issues.

On behalf of the Executive,

NORMAN F. PRIESTLEY,  
Vice-President.





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### U.F.W.A. CONVENTION

(Continued from page 25)

will develop into curative work as well. A discussion on state medicine and chiropractors took place.

#### FRIDAY'S SESSIONS

Miss Bailey of Bethany Lodge gave a brief outline of the work of the Lodge, expressing appreciation to the U.F.W.A. for their support.

Then followed the report of Mrs. Malloy, Convener of Legislation, who dealt in a brief but comprehensive manner with the grant for technical education; amendment to Old Age Pension Act; wheat bonus; gold standard; Beauharnois Light, Heat and Power Corporation; Amendment to the Bank Act; Public Health; The Mental Diseases Act, Amendment Act, 1931; The Child Welfare Amendment Act, 1931; The Solemnization of Marriage Act, Amendment Act 1931; The Domestic Relations Act, 1927, Amendment Act, 1931; The Poor Prisoner's Defence. The importance of making

Montgomery, the W. I.; Miss Jessie Montgomery, the Department of Extension of the University; Mrs. White, W.C.T.U.; Canon Clough, Edmonton Branch of the Red Cross; Miss Teskey, A.T.A.; Mrs. Riley, Canadian Council of Child Welfare and the Provincial Executive of the National Council of Women; Adjutant Shaw, the Salvation Army.

First on the afternoon's program was the report of the Convener of Social Welfare, Mrs. Dwelle. "One of the greatest planks in U.F.A.ism is co-operation," she stated, "not just co-operation in the U.F.A. but in all neighborly dealings and community affairs, in planting and harvesting, in managing schools and Chautauquas, in producing and selling and buying, in work and in recreation." She closed her address with an apt quotation, "It is a glorious thing to be able to sign cheques; but it is even more glorious to have some share in putting self-respect and hope once more in the heart of a dejected brother man."

#### FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT



Mrs. R. PRICE

#### SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT



Mrs. P. C. HEPBURN

a will was emphasized by Mrs. Malloy, who also urged each and every one to use their franchise. "Just so long as we shirk our responsibility with regard to our school, municipal, Provincial and Federal elections, just so long may we expect the chaos in which we find our public affairs today," she said.

Miss Storey, acting director of the Alberta Women's Bureau, brought greetings from the Department of Agriculture, and briefly outlined the work of the Bureau in 1931. She said the daily attendance at the short courses increased more than 50 per cent in 1931 over the two previous years. She mentioned the sand cherry, a hardy fruit which can be grown successfully in Western Canada. Seeds can be obtained from the Superintendent, Experimental Farm, Morden, Man., or from Mr. S. Wheeler, Rossland, B.C.

#### Fraternal Greetings

Fraternal delegates brought greetings from the following organizations: Mrs.

In her report on peace, Mrs. MacNaughton quoted Dr. Cadman—"The League of Nations, the best device ever invented as a means of keeping international peace, has no power except what is given it by the force of public opinion in the countries that compose it." Fear among the nations must be replaced by friendship—fear breeds suspicion, suspicion builds armaments, and armaments breed war. It was decided to protest to the Federal Government against its failure to have a delegate from Western Canada on the delegation to Geneva for 1932.

E. A. Corbett, Director of the Department of Extension of the University, spoke on "Radio and International Goodwill." He discussed the British Broadcasting Corporation, which is under the control of the Post Office, and said it was the finest system of broadcasting in the world, educationally and socially. Radio, as a public utility, should be developed for the people, he said.

Hon. Irene Parlyby spoke on the League.



of Nations. She urged faith in the League, and said that war could not be abolished by mere peace sentiment. There must be continued, sustained and patient effort, and a wide knowledge and understanding of the differences between nations, in order to bring about lasting world peace. Present conditions must force home the lesson that modern warfare brings destruction alike to victors and vanquished. She gave her impressions of the meeting in 1930.

An interesting feature of the Convention was the reunion of past officers. Mrs. Warr read the list of the past officers of the U.F.W.A., and Mrs. Sears and Mrs. Wyman were asked to come to the platform and address the delegates, and were accorded a hearty welcome. The wives of the Cabinet Ministers then entertained the delegates and visitors to tea, and a social hour was enjoyed.

The 1932 Convention was brought to a close at 10:30 o'clock on Friday evening, by the singing of "God Save the King," following resolutions of thanks to those who had entertained the delegates, the speakers, and others who had contributed to the success of the Convention.

### U.F.A. Junior Branch

#### SUCCESS OR FAILURE

Dear Juniors:

Man was made for action, and life is a mere scene for the exercise of the mind, the physical powers.

It matters not the views we take upon the subject, there is one thing quite certain—and that is, if happiness is not found in success, it is not found in failure. It is hope that ever leads us on, but we seldom attain what she beckons us to pursue. It may truthfully be said that the objects we so ardently pursue are insignificant in themselves and never fulfil our overdrawn expectations, but this by no means makes them unworthy of pursuit. Therefore, I think we all should study the economic conditions prevailing throughout the world with a view to success for everyone in the future.

Many people think that some great leader will come forth and lead them out of existing conditions, but we should all know that this will not happen, for a change will come from the people as a whole when they have educated themselves in the co-operative direction. You have probably all read the excellent piece on the Decline of the Competitive Economic System written in *The U.F.A.*, December 1st, by President Robert Gardiner, M.P. This article is very educational; we should not read it and stop at that, but keep trying in every way possible to find a suitable solution for our problems.

Experience has taught us that it is the nature of genius to labor patiently. Because of this we are apt to jump to the conclusion that genius is nothing more than patient labor. However, whether genius or otherwise, it is our duty as Canadians to be able to cast an intelligent vote and in this way assist in some of the existing problems. Also, we should realize that the growth of the future is dependent upon the thoroughness with which the problems of the community are studied.

No one really knows what his powers are until he has tested them by real efforts. The more limited one's powers may chance to be the greater is the need of effort. Sir Joshua Reynolds says,

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Yours sincerely,

LEON W. BATEMAN,  
Junior U.F.A. Director, Bow River  
Constituency, Vulcan.

### Junior News Items

A. Scott and M. D. Turley were elected president and secretary of Travers Junior Local at their annual meeting, which was well attended.

Bismark Juniors are endeavoring to start a debating league among several Locals, for which Wm. Irvine, M.P., has offered a cup, writes Margaret Archibald, secretary.

Lockhart Juniors enrolled six members at their last meeting, writes James Fraser, secre-

tary, in remitting dues. They also discussed the reading course.

Holborn Junior Local elected as officers for this year Howard Aubrey, Velma Brummett and Sidney A. Wright. Mrs. S. Everington and Lawrence Davidson are supervisors.

Flag Pole Hill Juniors recently enjoyed a talk by Master Marryat on the Boy Scout movement. At this meeting the subject of the roll call was "My Life's Ambition," reports Catherine MacDonald, secretary.

Brant Junior Local elected as officers Ira Rhodes, Annette Christofferson and Howard Doney. The secretary writes that the Local had a prosperous year and that the membership is increasing.

Eileen Reynolds, Evelyn Redmond and Richard Postans are officers of Sunnyside Junior Local this year. Six of the members will have charge of the program, educational work, social, athletic, handicrafts and reporting, respectively.

Rosewood Junior Local was reorganized recently with the following officers: Grace Watters, Evelyn Pugsley and Donald Stover. The secretary writes that "all the members are very enthusiastic and want to do their part."

Naco Juniors officers for the year are Viola Chisholm, Myles Kerr and Mae McConnell; the supervisors are Mrs. R. Clarke Fraser, Mr. and Mrs. A. Pearson, H. Jack and Mrs. F. W. Chisholm.

Desjarlais Juniors are making application for a travelling library. They have decided to hold two meetings—business and social—each month. N. W. Svekla, secretary, writes that they are thinking of pressing for a municipal hospital.

"Resolved that horses are more economical than trucks for transportation of wheat," was the subject of a debate by Loyalty Junior Local recently. Their New Year's Dance was a great success. Officers for this year are Wilfred Hopkins, Margaret Hogg and Ronald Hepburn.

At their annual meeting Waskatenau Juniors elected Earl Toane president; Lillian Kuklo, vice-president; and Cyril Proctor, secretary. They decided to ask I. Goresky, M.L.A., to assist them in their Mock Parliament. The secretary states that the members are few, but all good workers.

### Interests of the United Farm Women

Mrs. Spencer has written to state that her usual article has been held over, in view of the pressure upon space which she anticipated in the Convention number.

### Seasonable Recipes By AUNT CORDELIA

**Apple Crumb Pudding:** Peel and slice 8 or 10 apples into a buttered baking dish; add  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup white or brown sugar, and a little cinnamon. Cream together  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup butter,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup brown sugar and  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup flour; spread over apples and bake until apples are soft and the top a golden brown.

**Quick Coffee Cake:**  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup sugar, 4 tablespoons shortening, 1 egg, 1 cup milk, 1 cup flour, 1 teaspoon baking powder, nutmeg. Cream butter and sugar, add egg, milk, and flour, sifted with baking powder. Pour into square tin and sprinkle with  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup sugar mixed with  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup chopped nuts and  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon cinnamon. Bake 45 minutes in a moderate oven.

## The U.F.A. Pattern Department

Following are two patterns from our new Pattern Service. Be sure to give size and number of pattern and your name and address. The price is 20c each, postpaid.



No. 789—For Growing Girl. This style is designed in sizes 8, 10, 12 and 14 years. Size 8 requires  $1\frac{1}{2}$  yards of 39-inch material with  $\frac{1}{2}$  yard of 35-inch contrasting.

No. 287—This style is designed in sizes 12, 13, 15 and 17 years. Size 15 requires  $2\frac{1}{2}$  yards of 39-inch material with 1 yard of 39-inch contrasting and  $\frac{1}{2}$  yard of 1-inch ribbon.

Will the reader from St. Paul, Alberta, who ordered No. 672, size 44, please give name and address.

Truth loses value if people do not understand it.—Kiku-o, Japanese priest.

### Exhibit of Goods Supplied through U.F.A. Co-op. Committee

Delegates and visitors to the Annual Convention of the U.F.A. showed much interest in an attractive exhibit in one of the rooms of the Convention building, of products which are being supplied through the U.F.A. Co-operative Committee. The exhibit was in charge of representatives of the firms by whom the products are supplied. It included Red Head petroleum products; Robin Hood flour and mill feeds; Dunlop tires, belting, hose and accessories; also poultry supplies, gopher poison, disinfectants, canned goods, etc.

**Note:** It was subsequently decided by the U.F.A. Board that the U.F.A. Co-operatives should not deal for the present in canned goods.

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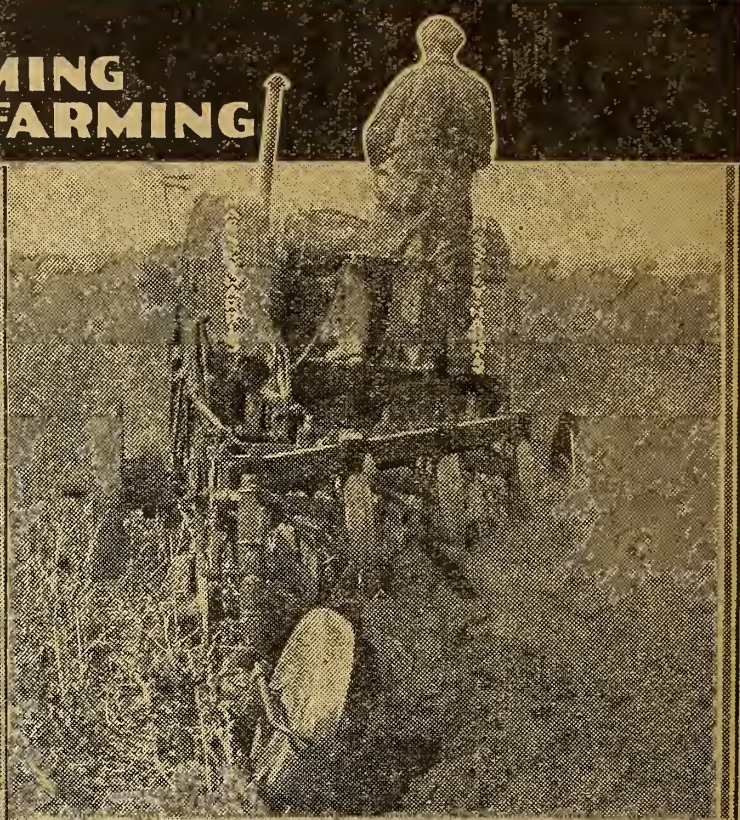
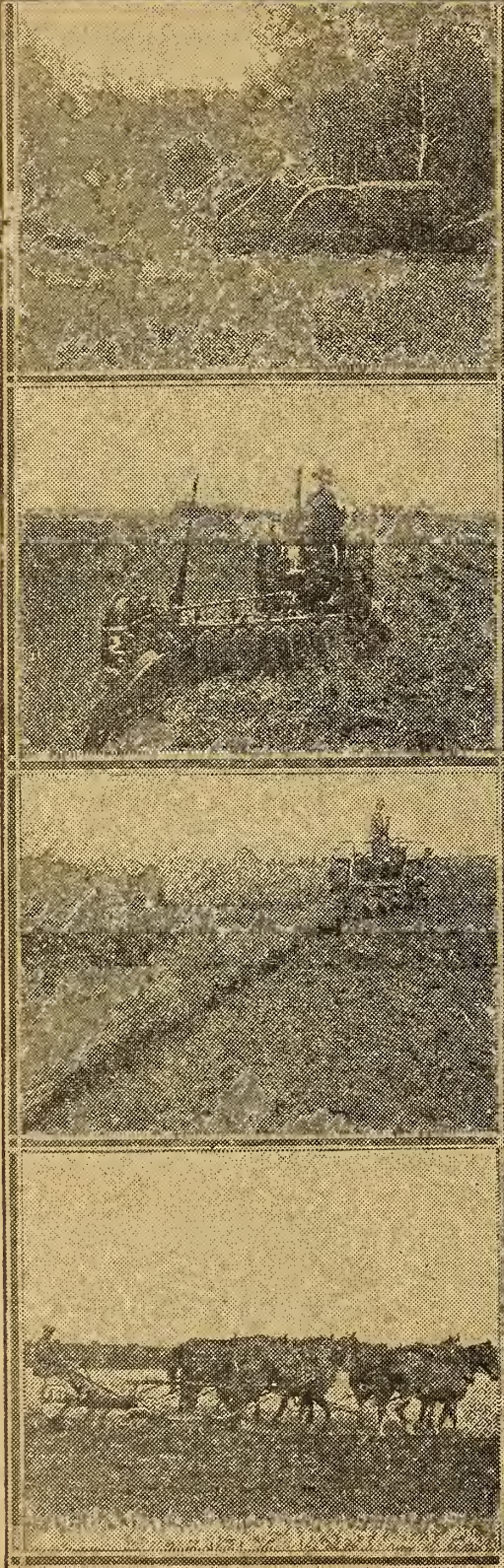
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